

## THE TIMES 1785-1985 Tomorrow

Sweet charity  
How business is  
booming for  
fund-raisers

Nobel men  
The peace prize  
winners' Russian  
connection

Winter warmers  
How to keep out  
the frosts but  
still look cool

Away game  
Soccer preview of  
Scotland's trip  
to Australia

## Portfolio

The winner of The Times  
Portfolio weekly prize of  
£20,000 on Saturday was Ms  
M Booth, of Paddington,  
London. The £2,000 daily prize  
was won by Mr I McKinnon, of  
Canterbury, Surrey.

Today's prices, page 16.  
How to play, back page  
Information Service.

## Youth blown to death in Snowdonia

A youth died and another was  
severely injured after they were  
blown off a mountainside in  
Snowdonia in gales which  
reached 60 mph. The youths,  
who have not been named, were  
on the snow-covered north  
ridge of the 3,000ft high Tryfan  
when they were caught by a gust  
of wind and fell 50ft. The  
Ogwen and RFAF valley mount-  
ain rescue teams brought them  
down the mountain. The  
injured youth is in hospital in  
Bangor. A third youth who was  
walking with them did not fall.

## UDR fears

Unionists are suspicious about  
proposed changes to the Ulster  
Defence Regiment, including  
improved training and the  
secondment of more officers  
from Britain.

## End to haven

Spanish authorities hope a new  
aliens law will spell the end of a  
haven for British fugitives,  
Middle East gunmen and  
international drug dealers.

## Reprisal fears

The murder of Mr Douglas  
Lilford, considered the architect  
of Rhodesian UDI politics, has  
prompted fears of reprisals  
among former white politicians  
in Zimbabwe.

## Aids initiative

The Government is expected to  
treble its budget for curbing the  
spread of Aids to £7 million,  
much of which will be ear-  
marked for education.

## Officers in dock

Bangkok's show trial of the  
officers behind last September's  
abortive coup starts on Wednes-  
day. It could last a year but few  
expect the whole truth to emerge.

## Militant check

The General and Municipal  
Workers union is expected to  
hold an inquiry which could  
lead to the suspension of several  
shop stewards who supported  
Militant policy in Liverpool.

## Union hesitates

The Transport and General  
Workers' Union is expected to  
review its electoral system after  
complaints from ministers that  
it contravenes the Trade Union  
Act of 1984.

## £3bn bids

Takeover bids for The Distillers  
Company and United Biscuits  
totaling a record £3 billion are  
expected to be launched on the  
Stock Exchange today.

## Kuwaiti plea

Kuwait, which once had the  
world's highest income per  
head, is seeking World Bank  
help to revive its debt-ridden  
economy.

## Business crisis

Singapore Stock Exchange was  
closed "until further notice" to  
allow the market to cool off in a  
business crisis.

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# Runcie backs report blaming ministers for inner-city decay

By Clifford Longley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The Government and the Church of England were launched into another serious public quarrel yesterday over a church report which attacks "dogmatic and inflexible" economic policies, and calls them "unacceptable in their effect on whole communities and generations".

With the report originally due to be published tomorrow, the Government got in the first blow with a ministerial source dismissing the church's efforts as "Marxist". There was church anger at the alleged pre-emptive strike, and the embargo on the report was lifted by the church.

The report was produced after two years' research by the Commission on Urban Priority Areas set up by the Archbishop of Canterbury. Dr Robert Runcie, He is expected to give it his wholehearted approval when he speaks at a press conference tomorrow.

He was in public dispute with the Government last year, saying the church must oppose economic policies which were unjust and damaging to national unity.

Saying the Church of England had to be "the conscience of the nation", the commission calls in question "all economic policies which, when put into practice, have contributed to the blighting of whole districts, which do not offer the hope of amelioration, and which perpetuate the human misery to which we have referred."

There was too much emphasis given to individualism and not enough to collective obligation. There was no guarantee that the commission goes on that the pursuit of individual self-interest would improve the common good. Even Adam Smith believed that economic

forces were subject to moral restraint.

On these central issues of economic policy, the commission argues for the primacy of moral judgement, measuring policies by their outcome.

"We are united in the view that the costs of present policies, with the continuing growth of unemployment, are unacceptable. We must question whether, at a time when our economy is in transition to an uncertain future, a dogmatic and inflexible macro-economic stance is appropriate."

It goes on to recommend a wide series of measures, many of which would involve substantially increased government spending, adding that the population would, in its opinion, be prepared to accept increased taxation to pay for them provided it was seen to be fair.

The commission's detailed recommendations in the section addressed to the nation include an "action plan" for a change in tax relief on mortgage interest. It was unfair to

subsidize the better off who were owner occupiers, at the expense of council house tenants, it said.

The commission also called for increased child benefit, deploring the way it was falling behind the rate of inflation, and for the payment of long-term supplementary benefits to those unemployed for more than a year.

Local authority resources in the inner city should be increased by raising the rate support grant, it says, and there should be a campaign against wasteful expenditure.

The report draws particular attention to youth unemployment, especially among black people, and calls for positive measures against racial discrimination. Housing authorities should monitor their performance by keeping ethnic records.

The commission's 400-page document is one of the most comprehensive studies of social and economic conditions in modern times, and it was Dr Runcie's intention from the start that it should have the same weight as a Royal Commission.

The chairman was Sir Richard O'Brien, former chairman of the Manpower Services Commission, and Mr John Pearson was seconded from the Department of the Environment to be the commission's secretary.

Government reaction now appears to be in marked contrast to the high level of co-operation the commission received from government departments, five of which submitted evidence.

Full details, page 4

Dr Robert Runcie: New clash with Government.

## Proposals likely to be ignored

By Our Political Correspondent

Interest tax relief and she is expected to take an early opportunity to make that clear.

Conservative MPs were quick to join in this latest round of antagonism between the Church of England and the Government.

Mr Peter Bruinvels, MP for Leicester East, who is a member of the General Synod of the Church of England, called the report "out of date, out of time, out of touch, and unwanted."

Mr John Carlisle, MP for

Luton North, said the report proved that the Church of England was run by "a load of communist clerics."

The Government should totally ignore and dismiss the report, he said.

The real confrontation will come on December 11, when a meeting open to all MPs will be held at the Palace of Westminster with those who wrote the report, members of the Archbishop's Commission on Urban Priority Areas.

Mr John Carlisle, MP for

## Pits force talks on breakaway

By Barrie Clement  
Labour Reporter

Leaders of the Leicestershire miners will today decide whether to follow Nottinghamshire and South Derbyshire in holding a ballot on seceding from the National Union of Mineworkers.

The area council has been called into emergency session after pressure from three of the county's four pits who have voted for a referendum. It follows accusations of delaying tactics against Mr Jack Jones, area secretary, who has been accused of loyalty to the NUM.

If the committee were to order a poll it would bring further pressure on the executive of the national union, which is meeting on Thursday to discuss the coal board's latest refusal to meet them on pay unless they accept the principle of bonus payments.

Pitmen in Nottinghamshire and South Derbyshire, who have voted to form the Union of Democratic Mineworkers (UDM), are already being paid extra, including incentive payments of 6 to 7 per cent.

Three of the pit representatives with votes on the Leicestershire area council are thought to be NUM loyalists but they will be urged by the fourth, Mr Terry Hughes, the Ellistown pit delegate and area President, to order a ballot.

Ellistown and Bagworth collieries have warned the council that in the absence of the county-wide vote they will hold pithead ballots. UDM supporters are anxious that the whole area should split away from the NUM to avoid arguments over area funds and other legal complications.

Mr Hughes said last night that the committee would order a poll if delegates were true to their mandates. But it was not clear whether they are constitutionally bound by the pithead votes.

NUM members in South Derbyshire have been advised by lawyers to claim unfair discrimination and to take the coal board to industrial tribunals to win the same pay increase as miners in the breakaway UDM.

## Two more hijackers may have survived

By Our Foreign Staff

Reports that a second and even third hijacker survived the Egyptian assault at Luga airport are gaining ground in Malta.

These were given further credence in Cairo when the captain of the Boeing 737 claimed that a second hijacker was alive.

Maltese newspapers last week said that in addition to Omar Marzouki, the alleged Tunisian hijacker leader, two other injured people were being kept isolated and under strict security at St Luke's Hospital. No information has been provided by the Maltese authorities.

There has been uncertainty from the start as to the exact number of hijackers involved and survivors have given different figures. Immediately after the storming of the Egyptian jet, however, Captain Hani Galal said there were five hijackers involved, although subsequently, reference was only made to four.

From the available evidence, only four hijackers can be accounted for. Besides Marzouki, a hijacker was killed on board the aircraft by an Egyptian security agent, while

two others were seen sprawled on the airport tarmac, seemingly executed by Egyptian commandos after being brought down from the Boeing.

There is also some doubt as to whether Marzouki was in fact the hijacker hit on the head with a hatchet by Mr Galal.

After the storming, Mr Paul Mifsud, the director of information, said this particular hijacker had been killed by the captain. It cannot be ascertained whether Marzouki has any head wounds.

He was transferred on Saturday from the intensive care unit to the cardiovascular department of St Luke's where security measures were considerably increased.

This would seem to confirm earlier reports that he had chest wounds.

A Maltese newspaper even reported on Saturday that the police were looking for an Arab, possibly a Syrian, who was connected with the hijack.

Meanwhile, a young Israeli woman, Nitsan Mendelson, shot and wounded during the hijack, died in St Luke's yesterday, sources said.

## Record 27 prisoners murdered

# Bloodiest year in Texas jails

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

A record 27 prisoners have been murdered in the tough jails of Texas in the first 10 months of this year. Last year, a total of 25 men were stabbed and beaten to death.

The bloodshed is partly a symptom of the chronic overcrowding in many American prisons. It is also a product of the rivalry between jail gangs and of the attempt by the authorities to regain control of jails that were partly run by prisoners themselves.

To save money, prison staff used to appoint tough and feared prisoners, known as tenders, to keep order. These men were petty dictators who maintained discipline in brutal fashion. Under their regime, deaths in prison were not made

public, and there were no post-mortems.

For the authorities, the attractions of this harsh tradition were order and cheapness. The bullies running prison wings were unpaid, and did the work of up to 10 guards. Texas strongly approve of long prison sentences and tough conditions, but want the jails run cheaply.

However, a judge ordered an end to the tender system two years ago, leaving a discipline vacuum. Now gang are fighting for control of the jail, drugs rackets and the Texas authorities have taken on 2,000 new, and inexperienced prison officers.

Searches have rooted out hundreds of homemade weapons. Prisoners are amazingly



Señor José María Ruiz Matéos, the fugitive Spanish financier, being driven from a Madrid court to prison. He was extradited by Bonn at the weekend. Report, page 4.

## Tin council 'acted beyond its powers'

By Michael Prest—  
Financial Correspondent

A confidential report on the International Tin Council has revealed that the council has been involved in what some member countries believe were irregular deals, beyond its powers.

The council - which is made up of 22 tin producing and consuming countries - is due to begin a decisive meeting in London today to try to find a way of paying off bank loans and meeting commitments to buy tin worth \$900 million.

But allegations by some EEC member countries that their delegates to the council agreed to deals which were beyond its powers are a big obstacle to agreement. The British Government is among those which are unhappy about the deals.

The member countries must agree on loan guarantees and financial support for the council in order to avert a disastrous collapse of the world tin price.

Many thousands of jobs round the world, - including those of tin miners in Cornwall, are threatened.

In the report, which was commissioned by the council as an audit of its tin dealing and financial commitments, the accountants Peat, Marwick, Mitchell say that the council entered into special borrowing deals which on October 24 totalled 20,030 tonnes (worth \$163 million at that day's price).

The deals enabled the council to buy tin then re-sell it to the same broker three months later without spending cash, although interest was paid to the broker on the effective borrowing.

In this way the council was able to take tin off the market without breaching borrowing limits. At one time 30,000 tonnes of tin was borrowed in this way.

Continued on back page, col 6

## Britain puts brake on radical EEC reforms

From Richard Owen  
Luxembourg

The European summit which opens here today now looks likely to adopt only a limited and modest set of proposals to reform the EEC, with Mrs Margaret Thatcher carrying the day for the "pragmatists" or "realists" after five months of debate. The reforms will be far from the "maximalists" vision of a united Europe.

Yesterday, Britain and France came to blows over the notion of a Europe without frontiers. France and the Brussels Commission both accuse Britain of "backdoor protectionism".

As European foreign ministers held their final meeting yesterday in the guise of the preparatory Inter-governmental Conference, Denmark joined Britain in applying the brakes to radical reforms such as decisive powers for the European Parliament and the total abolition of controls over the movement of people, goods, services and capital known to the maximalists as "the four freedoms".

The Danish Prime Minister, Mr Poul Schlüter, has been instructed by the EEC committee of the Danish Parliament not to accept any reforming amendments to the Treaty of Rome.

The reformers - Italy and Holland as well as the Commission itself - want to introduce majority voting rather than unanimity to get measures through faster in the EEC.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, insisted that Britain's natural concerns over rabies or drugs were not an excuse for protectionism. Such frontier controls were vital to the British Isles, and neither Britain nor Ireland had yet found a way of protecting them selves without recourse to the safeguards of unanimous voting.

A EEC spokesman said most EEC states had understood Britain's special concerns. Officials said a form of words could be found to paper over the cracks between those pressing for a broad definition of the full community and those favouring a narrower definition in terms of trade and market freedoms rather than political idealism. France said it was backing the broader concept of a European "space without frontiers".

As a compromise on contentious issues, resolutions could be written into the summit communiqué, which does not have the force of law, rather than into the Treaty of Rome, which does. This applies also to monetary cohesion in Europe, codification of which is vehemently opposed by Britain and West Germany.

Mrs Thatcher spoke against ambitious and grandiose schemes after the last abortive summit in Milan last June.

Shadow of Milan, page 4

## Israeli apology to US on 'spy'

From Ian Murray  
Jerusalem

The Israeli government yesterday admitted it had been wrong to spy on its ally the United States and "to the extent that it did take place" apologised. Those guilty of any involvement would be punished.

Mr Shimon Peres, the Prime Minister, gave the apology during yesterday's Cabinet meeting. It came a week after he promised a full inquiry into allegations that Mr Jonathan Pollard, a US Navy civilian intelligence specialist, had been spying for Israel, and two days after the American State Department accused Israel of failing to provide full and prompt co-operation in inquiry into the affair.

Yesterday's statement claimed the inquiry was still not complete. "The Government of Israel is determined to spare no effort in investigating this case thoroughly and completely and uncovering all the facts to the last detail, no matter where the trail may lead," Mr Peres said.

"The allegations are confirmed, those responsible will be brought to account, the unit involved in this activity will be completely and permanently dismantled, and necessary organizational steps will be taken to ensure that such activities are not repeated."

Spying on the US was in total contradiction to policy. "Such activity, to the extent that it did take place, was wrong and the Government of Israel apologises."

If the full inquiry is not yet complete, the results of an interim one were given to Mr Thomas Pickering, the American Ambassador, in the middle of last week. They were promptly leaked to *The New York Times*, and suggested that Mr Pollard had volunteered to supply information from American intelligence about Arab armies and their Soviet equipment. He was said to be reporting to a senior official dealing with counter-terrorism who works independently, but in the Prime Minister's office.

The counter-terrorism unit is run by Mr Rafael Eitan, a former senior Mossad agent nicknamed "Hamashiah" (the Stinker) to distinguish him from the former Israeli chief of staff of the same name. He has been kept on at the insistence of the Likud party in the Prime Minister's office, where he is left very much to himself.

Mr Eitan would make an ideal scapegoat, particularly as he has strong personal links with Mr Ariel Sharon, the contentious trade and industry minister who nearly brought the Government down last month.

WASHINGTON: The apology was greeted with satisfaction here, and the promise of full co-operation will do much to defuse the row (Michael Binyon writes).

## Lloyd's 'impeding fraud inquiries'

By Anthony Bevins  
and Alison Eadie

Senior legal sources last night accused Lloyd's of London of withholding evidence on fraud allegations relating to two syndicates.

It was stated that the fraud investigation group (FIG) set up by the Director of Public Prosecutions to inquire into the affairs of the two syndicates, Peter Cameron-Webb and Alexander Howden, was working on more than one million separate documents in its attempts to build a case which could involve more than £70 million in misappropriated funds.

But the sources said that the inquiry was being impeded by blockages. One source said that it was "infringing" that the authorities of the Lloyd's insurance market had refused to give to FIG transcripts of evidence taken during confidential internal inquiries into the two syndicates.

FIG was also said to be negotiating with the Swiss authorities in the hope of getting admissible evidence of fraud, which would give the DPP the required 50 per cent chance of launching successful prosecutions.

But Mr Ian Hay Davison, the chief executive of Lloyd's, last night surprised the same sources when he told *The Times*: "Transcripts taken under oath of confidence cannot be handed over unless specifically demanded by the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) or the Department of Trade and Industry."

"We have suggested to the two departments that they instruct us under their statutory powers to hand over any transcripts they want and we would hand them over immediately."

The DPP has no such statutory powers, and that is known by Lloyd's advisers, who are subject to Lloyd's by-laws.

The scandal surrounding Lloyd's, which is to be the subject of further Commons allegations from Mr Brian Sedgemore, Labour MP for Hackney South and Shoreditch, this week, took a further turn last night when Channel 4's

Continued on back page, col 4

Mr Ian Hay Davison, Lloyd's chief executive.

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## Transport union studies ballot strategy after minister's court warning

By Donald Macintyre, Labour Editor

The Transport and General Workers' Union executive is expected to discuss its electoral strategy at a meeting which opens today amid mounting complaints from ministers that it is in conflict with the Trade Union Act 1984.

Mr Kenneth Clarke, Paymaster General and chief Commons spokesman on employment, yesterday urged individual TGUW members to challenge the way in which the executive elections, the first phase of which is under way, are being run.

Mr Clarke said members had an "undoubted legal right" to complain either to the courts or to the government-appointed certification officer.

At the same time Mr Ron Todd, the union's general secretary, defended senior individuals on the executive against what he said has been "scurrilous" attacks in a national newspaper aimed to interfere in the elections.

Mr Todd said: "The revival of McCarthyite hysteria is something we must all be concerned with, irrespective of our individual political beliefs."

Mr Clarke told the Conservative Trade Unionists' annual conference in Blackpool that the union was conducting the elections "apparently in the full knowledge that they are against the law". He said that while the Act required workplace or postal ballots, voting under way for the 26 territorial seats was taking place "at branches and not always at the workplace".

The indirect method of electing 14 members by sectional trade group committees, due to go ahead in January, did not comply with the legislation.

Mr Clarke said that by proceeding in that way the union was displaying "cynicism and contempt" for its members after it had "only just" emerged from the "scandal of blatant ballot-rigging that surrounded

the first election of Mr Todd." Mr Todd persuaded the executive to re-run that ballot after complaints of rigging in the first poll.

Ministers believe that complaints will be made to the certification officer that the present round of elections are outside the Act of 1984. They also believe that an attempt to secure an injunction restraining the union from going ahead with the elections, might stand a chance of success in the courts, while there would be an even stronger case for securing a court order once the new executive, including the indirectly elected minority, was in place.

Mr Clarke said the certification officer or the courts would decide whether the terms of the Act of 1984 had been broken and added: "If that should prove to be the case, let no one forget that the High Court stands above Ron Todd."



## Restoration at rail station

By Charles Kneivitt, Architecture Correspondent

The two stark black towers flanking Cannon Street railway station and overlooking the river Thames, shown here with the dome of St Paul's Cathedral in the background, have been sheathed in scaffolding and plastic sheets for a £242,000 restoration.

The towers, 23 ft square and 135 ft high, were built in 1866 and supported the train shed roof, which was removed in

1958. They were listed Grade II in 1972. The east tower still contains a large water tank, which was used during the days of steam to replenish locomotives and to power the station hydraulic systems.

Brickwork is to be repaired, repointed and cleaned, the roofs and pagodas topping the towers will be refurbished, and the weathervanes gilded to complement the dome of the cathedral.

The work, scheduled to be completed early next summer, is funded by the Railway Heritage Trust, as one of its first main projects, and by British Rail Southern Region. An exhibition in the station in August will mark the 150th anniversary of the London and Greenwich Railway.

Photograph: John Voss

## Duke's niece sues for divorce

The Duke of Edinburgh's niece, Princess Christina of Hesse, aged 52, is petitioning for divorce from her second husband, Mr Robert van Eyck, aged 68, a Dutch-born artist. Princess Christina's petition appears in a list of forthcoming cases to be heard in the High Court. She was previously married to Prince Andrej, youngest son of King Alexander of Yugoslavia.

## Union inquiry may add to pressure on Militant

By Our Labour Editor

The biggest union representing Liverpool local authority workers is expected to initiate an official inquiry which could lead to the suspension of several key shop stewards who have supported the conduct of the Militant-dominated city council.

The General Municipal, Boilermakers' & Allied Trades Union appears certain to ask its north-western regional committee to mount a formal investigation into complaints about a small number of shop stewards in Liverpool. The union has 9,500 members employed by the council.

The executive of the union will meet tomorrow week to hear reports from Mr John Edmonds, general secretary-designate, Mr John Whelan, the regional secretary, and a small executive sub-committee set up two months ago to monitor the financial and political crisis in the city, including "communication" between the union's full time leadership and some of its shop stewards.

The move will be the first of its kind to be initiated by the union since the crisis began and will bring fresh pressure on Militant and its sympathizers.

Several of the complaints are understood to relate to a specific incident in which Mr Lennard allegedly handed out individual redundancy notices issued by the council in spite of a refusal by Militant members to process the notices, and when all the unions, including his own, had asked the council not to proceed with the notices.

Mr Larry Whitty, Labour's general secretary, has sent out instructions for a news blackout on the investigation into the Liverpool Labour party. (Our Political Correspondent writes).

The order comes after "melodramatic" reports in yesterday's papers suggesting that the inquiry would be held in a Liverpool "safe house" in order to protect the anonymity of witnesses, and that evidence of fraud and corruption would be passed on to the police or the Director of Public Prosecutions.

## Yard studies murder papers on politician

Scotland Yard's anti-terrorist branch is studying a dossier prepared by M. Gerard Hoarau, the exiled Seychelles politician killed last week, which gives details of a recent plot to kill him in France. (Our Crime Reporter writes).

M. Hoarau, leader of the Mouvement Pour La Résistance, was to deliver the dossier to The Sunday Times on Friday, the day he was killed. The dossier alleges a plot by the René regime in the Seychelles to attack M. Hoarau in France. The attack was bungled, but on Friday morning he was machine-gunned in the driveway of his home in Edgware, north London.

According to The Sunday Times yesterday, the dead man was going to give the newspaper the dossier.

## Police forces join to widen JMB inquiry

Scotland Yard officers and the City of London police are to meet this week to begin arrangements for enlarging the police inquiry into the Johnson Matthey Bankers collapse (Stewart Tandler writes).

After the discovery by City officers of evidence of a huge fraud men from Scotland Yard's section of the Metropolitan and City Police company fraud branch are to be drafted in to help the City colleagues. The two sections of the branch usually work separately but the JMB inquiry has led to a joint squad.

The investigation into JMB's affairs had been carried out by a force led by Det Chief Supt Gerry Squires, head of the City section of the branch. Mr Squires will remain in overall command.

## Meat trade goes on attack

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

As vegetarians staged their annual demonstration outside the Royal Smithfield Show at Earls Court yesterday the Meat and Livestock Commission launched a counterattack on "misleading propaganda" on television, radio and in the press.

"Much of the reporting has been fair and factual but some, including several television programmes recently, have given people horrendously inaccurate impressions about meat and meat products", Mr Keith Roberts, the commission's chairman, said.

The diet and health issue had continued to attract public attention and capture much space and time in the news media, he said. But it was important that the debate should be balanced and that distorted information was not

allowed to raise unnecessary public alarm. "We in the commission will continue to oppose vigorously those who seek to denigrate meat and the meat industry and mislead the public," he said.

Meat was a very large industry and represented about one third of total agricultural output. "There is no way that we are going to allow this industry to go down the drain", he said.

The commission's assault coincided with figures released yesterday by the Ministry of Agriculture which showed that consumption of red meat, beef, lamb and pork, was 14 per cent higher in the third quarter of this year than in the corresponding period last year.

Sales of pork were 23 per cent higher, probably reflecting lower prices, but lamb par-

chases were 16 per cent up and beef 8 per cent.

The Association of the British Pharmaceutical Industry said yesterday that without the continued use of approved hormones, growth of British farmers raising beef by traditional methods would not be able to compete with European intensive producers.

To compete in Europe, British farmers would need to adopt the total confinement methods used on the Continent, which would be a cause of concern to animal welfare groups and would also involve the industry in considerable investment.

The Ministry of Agriculture's National Food Survey also highlights a continued increase in the consumption of wholemeal and other breads.

## Unionists' fears on proposed changes for Ulster regiment

From Richard Ford, Belfast

Improvements in training and increased secondment of officers from Britain are being prepared for the Ulster Defence Regiment as part of an attempt to make it more acceptable to nationalists in Northern Ireland.

The changes, which could involve sending senior UDR officers for training at Sandhurst and the attachment of more warrant officers from Britain to nine battalions in the province, have been under discussion for months.

Another idea under consideration is the possibility of manoeuvres abroad with the Regular Army. The ideas are part of an effort by the Government to achieve the highest level of professionalism but the improvements are certain to be controversial.

Unionists who view the regiment as their last line of defence against terrorists will allege that the changes are inspired by Dublin, and part of a long-term plot to disband the UDR or put it on a par with other regiments and liable to tours of duty away from the province.

Mr Tom King, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, said last month that there was no proposal to reduce the regiment, which was a vital part of the security forces in Northern Ireland.

Other security sources are known to fear that the regiment has become counter-productive but to overcome its problems there is, where Royal Ulster Constabulary manpower permits, to be increasing joint RUC-UDR patrols so that the police deal directly with the

public. This is in line with the overall security policy since the mid-seventies, whereby the Army acts in support of the RUC.

The UDR provides support for the RUC in more than 85 per cent of the province but is widely perceived by nationalists as being a sectarian force. Support for the security forces and the administration of justice from the minority community is considered essential by the Government and early meetings of the joint Anglo-Irish Ministerial Conference will concentrate on those relationships.

The scale of the problem facing the security forces is clear with not one policeman living on the nationalist side of Londonderry or in the town of Newry, co Down. Demographic changes in the west are likely also to bring an increasing nationalist population, and the RUC faces the prospect of policing vast areas with, at best, no consent from local people.

Sir John Hermon, Chief Constable of the RUC, and Mr Lawrence Wren, Commissioner of the Garda, are to meet this week to discuss common problems.

Mr Enoch Powell said yesterday that the Prime Minister had betrayed Ulster under pressure from the United States (Anthony Bevin writes). In an interview on BBC television's This Week, Next Week he said that the pressure for a united Ireland arose from the American desire to bring the republic into Nato; to enhance Alliance facilities which the strategists regarded as vital.

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## Family accuses IRA murderers of 'mistake'

The family of a youth killed in a "punishment" shooting yesterday accused the Provisional IRA of covering up for one of its mistakes (Richard Ford writes).

Edward Taggart, aged 18, died eight hours after being shot in the back as he tried to flee from the terrorists who then shot him in both legs as he lay bleeding on the ground. He is the second known person to die as a result of this type of shooting during the troubles.

Mr Taggart had been singled out by a Provisional IRA punishment squad who attacked him near his home in the Divis Flats complex on Falls Road, west Belfast. He was taken to the Royal Victoria Hospital nearby after the attack on Saturday.

In a statement, the Belfast brigade of the Provisional IRA accused the youth of being involved in anti-social activities such as assaults and robberies. It added he had ignored previous warnings, and urged all those involved in "anti-

social activities" to desist immediately.

His family said the Provisionals had blamed Mr Taggart for everything that happened in the flats, and had wanted to "stiff him". A statement from two of his brothers, Gerard and Thomas, said: "The Provisional IRA are covering up for one of their mistakes."

The killing was condemned by Mr Joe Hendron, Social Democratic and Labour Party Assemblyman for West Belfast, who said he was sickened by the Provisionals' "unseemly hypocrisy". The death of Mr Taggart, a Roman Catholic, is a serious embarrassment to Provisional Sinn Féin, political wing of the Provisional IRA, as it occurred in one of their heartlands.

An 800lb IRA remote-controlled bomb was defused by Army bomb disposal experts in a six-hour operation in Belfast during the weekend, after it had been left to explode near the Ormeau Park leisure system.

## Labour edgy over poll turnout

By Anthony Bevin, Political Correspondent

Labour party officials are concerned that a slump in turnout could slash its lead in Thursday's by-election for the safe Labour seat of Tyne Bridge. At the start of the campaign Labour was confident it could maintain or even increase the 56.5 per cent share of the poll which it won at the last general election.

But Mr Neil Kinnock said last week that there had been a number of people who had moved addresses on the nine-month-old register of electors, and that this might hamper Labour's efforts.

The Labour leader will be in the constituency today in the hope of stimulating the bedrock Labour vote. But it is expected that many voters will take a Labour victory for granted and fail to vote.

Mr David Clelland, the moderate Labour leader of Gateshead council, is assured of victory, with a poll taken last week suggesting that Mr Rod Kanyon, the SDP candidate, could overtake Mrs Jacqui Lait, the Conservative candidate.

## Crockford's on 'foolish theologians'

By Clifford Langley, Religious Affairs Correspondent

The controversy last year surrounding the doctrinal views of the Bishop of Durham, the Right Rev. David Jenkins, "showed how foolish clever theologians can be", according to the preface of the new edition of Crockford's Clerical Directory, published today.

The preface, traditionally a trenchant comment by an unnamed senior churchman on recent ecclesiastical affairs, couples the bishop with the Dean of Emmanuel College, Cambridge, the Rev. Don Cupitt, and accuses them of "an impression of arrogance" and insensitivity to the warm feelings of church-goers.

"The writer recommends that Mr Cupitt should cease leading the public celebration of worship, and criticizes the Bishop of Durham for accepting his appointment last year 'without also accepting the obligation to the dignified performance of representative role'."

Crockford's is published this year for the first time by the Church Commissioners and the General Synod of the Church of England, who have formed the new imprint Church House Publishing. It was previously published by Oxford University Press, although the preface writer is said to be the same as in the last edition in 1982. Crockford prefaces are traditionally received in the church as licensed mischief, rather than as portentous prophecy.

The preface writer urges the bishop to discover the virtue of "pastoral courtesy", but does not pass judgement on the central issue last year: whether Jesus was virginally conceived and whether his tomb was empty after the Resurrection.

Crockford's Clerical Directory Church House Publishing (£27.50)

The Times overseas selling prices: £1.50 per copy (including postage) in the Channel Islands, £1.60 in the rest of the world. Single copies 50p. Subscriptions: £12.00 per annum (including postage) in the Channel Islands, £13.00 in the rest of the world. Single copies 50p. Subscriptions: £12.00 per annum (including postage) in the Channel Islands, £13.00 in the rest of the world. Single copies 50p.

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TIMES BOOKS



## Security at Jarrett inquest is tightened

MP for Wealden, a party colleague, will seek to initiate a debate on the "influences which may make a contribution to violent crimes committed by the young".



## Marconi, Marie Curie, Gustav Dalén, Henry Ford. Who's the odd one out?

Grazie, Signor Marconi for your radio.  
Merci, Madame Curie for radium.  
Thanks, Henry Ford for your motors. Tack,  
Dr. Gustav Dalén for the Aga cooker.

No, Dr. Dalén is not the odd one out. Yes, he is the only Swede.

He was also, like Guglielmo Marconi and Marie Curie, a Nobel Prize-winning scientist.

You've probably never heard of him, so who was Gustav Dalén? He is the man to whom thousands of seamen owe their lives; because he invented a thing called Dalén's Sun Valve that turns a lightship's lights on by night and puts them out by day, automatically. That's why they gave him the Nobel Prize.

He was the scientist so dedicated to his work that he was blinded in an explosion during one of his experiments, yet he still went on later to complete the experiment.

He was also the man who invented the only cooker in the world that roasts, bakes, boils, steams, simmers, fries, braises, grills, casseroles and toasts, yes toasts (bet you thought an Aga couldn't, didn't you?) perfectly.

More than that, though, what Dr. Dalén did in 1922 was to reinvent the cooker.

He simply couldn't find a cooker in existence to satisfy his exacting scientific standards.

So combining his knowledge of combustion, metallurgy and nutrition with kitchen common sense, he invented the Aga.

Despite the advent of microwaves and fan ovens, there is still nothing in the world that cooks food better than an Aga.

Remembering what a pain it is waiting for the oven to heat up, Gustav Dalén made sure you never have to do that with his Aga. It's ready anytime.

Then, pondering the inscrutable riddle of the boiling-over pan, he came up with a simmering plate big enough to hold three saucepans that won't let them boil over. Eeerr.

The boiling plate, though, boils a pint of water faster than an electric kettle. It holds three saucepans, too.

More interesting, perhaps, is the fact that our Dr. Dalén just might have been psychic.

Well, can you think of any other cooker that runs throughout the day on cheap rate overnight electricity? Believe us, there isn't one.

To Gustav Dalén, making a cooker run on the principle of stored heat was just the most efficient way to make it. It still is.

But how was he to know the Central Electricity Generating Board would come up with 'night storage' if he wasn't psychic?

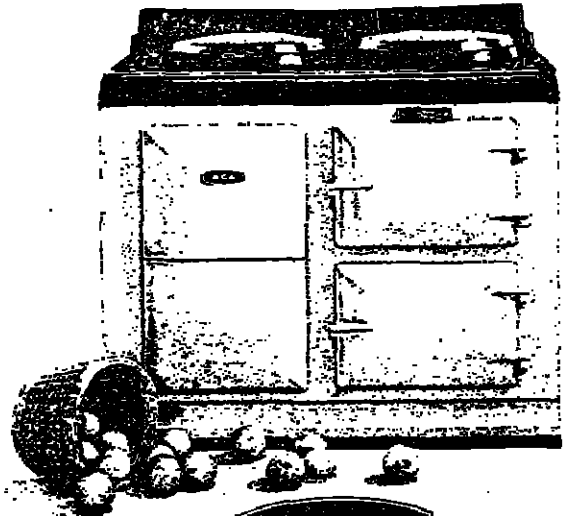
Anyway, since you can now buy an electric Aga (as well as one that runs on natural gas, LPG, oil or solid fuel), it's the only cooker in the world that can run on nothing but off-peak electricity.

Impressed? We thought you might be. If you'd like to see a live Aga, any of our distributors can show you one. Or you can write to us at Aga, Freepost, Ketley, Telford TF1 3BR and we'll tell you all about them.

Oh yes, who is the odd one out? It's Henry Ford. You know him. He's odd because he was no scientist. He was just clever enough to sell cars by the million, saying: "Any colour you like so long as it's black."

Well, you can buy an Aga in green, blue, red, brown, cream, white or even gloriously black vitreous enamel.

Psychic or not, the only really odd thing about Gustav Dalén is that his name wasn't Gustav Aga.



AGA

IT'S A WAY OF LIFE.

## Church report on inner cities

# Political will to fight decay and deprivation is missing

The whole structure of British society is called in question by the growth of poverty and the decay of the fabric of the inner city, the Archbishop of Canterbury's commission on urban priority areas says. Publication of the report was brought forward to yesterday.

The commission quotes approvingly one submission to it: "The exclusion of the poor is pervasive, and not accidental." It asks whether the political will exists "to enable those who are at present in poverty and powerlessness to rejoin the life of the nation."

The commission, which toured the country taking evidence for two years and which received extensive help from government ministries, did not find that political will existing at present. At one point it attacks "inflexible and dogmatic" government economic policies.

Elsewhere it asserts that the political class would be prepared to accept higher taxation, if the burden was seen to be fairly shared, to attack unemployment and poverty. It would take a half-penny increase in the basic rate of tax to pay long-term supplementary benefit to the unemployed.

Child benefit should rise, as the most effective direct means of fighting family poverty. The commission says it is "dismayed" that the real value of this benefit is not at present even being kept in line with inflation.

The commission calls in question the system of tax relief on mortgages to owner occupiers, contrasting it with the zero-subsidy on council housing.

## Battle of the poor and the powerful

In its conclusion the report says

Chapter after chapter of our report tells the same story: that a growing number of young people are excluded by poverty or powerlessness from sharing in the common life of our nation. A substantial minority, perhaps as many as one person in every four or five across the nation, and a much higher proportion in the UPAs (urban priority areas) - are forced to live on the margins of poverty or below the threshold of an acceptable standard of living.

The present acute situation of our nation's UPAs demands an urgent response from the Church and from government.

The Archbishop's Commission on "Church and State" concluded its report in 1970: "The church should concern itself first and indeed second, with the poor and needy, whether in spirit or in body."

We echo these words.

National debate on future of cities

But we are conscious that we have scratched only the surface of some of the major concerns to have emerged from our work. To draw out the implications of some of these, such as the church's response to the prospect of persistent long-term unemployment, will require more time and resources than have been available to us.

There must also be a major national debate on the future of our cities in which the church must play a full part.

Perhaps the most important wider question concerns the structure of our society. One submission to us put it bluntly: "The exclusion of the poor is pervasive, and not accidental. It is organized and imposed by powerful institutions which represent the rest of us."

Here is a challenge indeed. It will call among other things for a clear resolve on the part of Church and government to have faith in the city. We take courage from three realities which are evident to us.

First, that changes on a global scale are already upon us, as the era known as industrial society gives place to something new. The industrial city is one of the focal points of that change. In almost every sphere of life and in a brief span of time the future is being shaped by action or by default.

The very assumptions of our culture are now open to debate in new ways. We do not pretend to discern clearly what is to come. We present no comprehensive political or economic analysis. That task goes beyond this commission.

Benefits and burdens more equally shared

The second evident reality is the experience of justice, love and hope in human history, focused most clearly for us in our religious tradition. We know that there is a transforming power present in human affairs which can resolve apparently intractable situations and can bring new life into the darkest places. If, as we dare to affirm, the nature of human life is to be discerned in the life of Jesus Christ, we can take heart and pledge ourselves to a deeper commitment to create a society in which benefits and burdens are shared in a more equitable way.

But, and this is our third evident reality, somewhere along the road which we have travelled in the past two years each of us has faced a personal challenge to our lives and lifestyles: a call to change our thinking and action in such a way as to help us to stand more closely alongside the risen Christ with those who are poor and powerless. We have found faith in the city.



CLIFFORD LONGLEY, Religious Affairs Correspondent, on the critical report about the state of the inner cities by an inquiry commission set up by the Archbishop of Canterbury

"It is unjust," it says, "to tell those in bad housing that we cannot afford to do anything for them, that there is no money available to provide them with a home, and at the same time give subsidies to those on the highest income."

But it stops short of calling for the abolition of mortgage tax relief, asking instead for an inquiry into the situation.

The 400-page report of the commission is directed, sometimes in separate sections, and sometimes jointly, to the nation and to the Church of England. It is not complacent about the role of the

church hitherto in the inner city, pointing out that Anglican church-goers are on average less than 1 per cent of the population.

But the commission affirms the church's continuing duty to minister there, praises the devoted energies of the clergy in many instances, and describes the inner city as an opportunity and a challenge for Christianity.

The inner-city crisis is evidence of inequality and polarization in society, the commission states.

"Poverty is at the root of powerlessness. Poor people in urban priority areas are at the mercy of fragmented and apparently unresponsive public authorities. They are trapped in housing and in environments over which they have little control. They lack the means and opportunity, which so many of us take for granted, of making choices in their lives."

In contrast, however, the commission was confident the difficulties could be overcome. "The planned resurgence of the British city is both possible and desirable in the immediate future."

Cities are still flourishing centres of social, economic and political life. There is amazing human resilience, courage, pride, and local loyalty. The church also, often struggling to survive, is also often intensely alive, "proclaiming and witnessing to the Gospel more authentically than in many parts of 'comfortable Britain'."

*Faith in the City, A Call for Action by Church and Nation* (Church House Publishing, Church House, Dean's Yard, London SW1 7.50).

## Members of inquiry team

MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

Sir Richard O'Brien, chairman, Bishop of Liverpool  
The Right Rev David Sheppard, Bishop of Croydon  
The Rev Alan Hillage, Vicar, St Mary's, Wakefield, and deputy leader, Sheffield City Council  
David Booth, executive director, BICC

John Bura, headmaster, Longbenton High School, N Tyneside  
The Rev Andrew Hale, social development officer, borough of Thamesdown

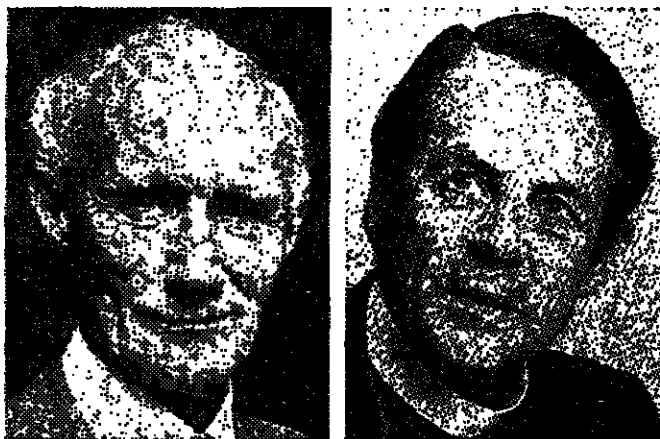
Professor A. H. Halsey, director, Centre for Housing and Community Studies, Nuffield College, Oxford  
The Rev Dr Anthony Harvey, canon of Westminster

Ron Keating, assistant general secretary, National Union of Public Employees  
Ruth McCarty, teacher in Hackney, clergy wife

Professor R. E. Pahl, research professor in sociology, Kent University  
Professor John F. Pickering, professor of industrial economics, Aston University

Dr J. H. Roberts, professor of urban studies, University of Manchester  
The Rev Martin Stanger, priest-in-charge, St John's, South London  
The Rev Martin Stanger, priest-in-charge, St John's, South London

Michael Spencer, chief executive, Project Housing  
Sir John Stanger, principal, National Institute of Research in Housing  
The Rev Harry Threlkirk, Vicar, St Michael's, Bristol



Sir Richard O'Brien (left) and the Right Rev David Sheppard



The Right Rev Wilfred Wood (left) and Mr Ron Keating

## More spending needed for urban priority areas

Most of the report's analysis and comment, and most of its recommendations directed at the nation as distinct from the church, are about central government policy and call for greater public spending.

The commission calls for a higher priority for inner city areas (urban priority areas), and as an extension of that, for council estates of former inner city populations in outlying areas. Other points are:

Rate support grant should be increased in general, and additionally for urban priority areas.

Local authorities should be required to monitor their efficiency, to cut wasteful expenditure.

The "Urban Programme", a special government scheme for inner cities, should have more funds, and its workings need improvement.

There should be greater consultation and partnership with local people in each neighbourhood.

The commission wants a "new deal" between government and voluntary organizations in the inner city, giving them better continuity and an assured place in the range of services. It suggests earmarking part of the rate support grant accordingly.

The commission reviews very critically the role of the Church of England in inner-city areas, and proposes an organizational shake-up and a new concept of ministry in those areas. As a first step, the church should properly identify inner-city parishes in need; using national criteria.

Other proposals are that the distribution of clergy in the church should be re-assessed, so that urban priority areas get their fair share. Large outlying housing estates should be treated similarly.

A new class of church minister, a layman on a salary or stipend, is also suggested to work across traditional parish boundaries. Every parish should "audit" its situation by conducting its own internal inquiry, so that it can then work to a national policy appropriate to the area's needs.

Groups of parishes organized in deaneries should co-operate and share resources, and each parish should review annually

Among efforts to reduce unemployment, there should be special support for small firms in the inner city, and a council to represent them nationally in dealings with government.

The Government should also embark on job-creating capital projects in the inner city.

There should be a national debate about overtime, and whether agreement to reduce it would increase the number of jobs in general. The report calls Britain a "low-wage, long-hours" economy, suffering a conspiracy of silence concerning the high level of overtime.

The Government's "Community Programme" should be both expanded by up to half a million places, and its rules relaxed to encourage the unemployed to take part without penalties.

The long-term rate of supplementary benefit should be extended to those unemployed for more than a year.

Child benefit should be raised above the rate of inflation "as an effective means of assisting, without stigma, families in poverty".

Public policy on income support, pay and taxation should be reviewed by an independent inquiry, which would consider "the objectives and mechanisms of the welfare state".

Bodies responsible for public housing should keep "ethnic records" so that racial discrimination in housing would be monitored with a view to eliminating it.

The Government should restore its support for public housing for rent, to increase the availability of all types of housing, including that for single people. The homeless single should have a statutory right to accommodation, as homeless families do now.

A fundamental examination of comparative subsidies in the public and private sector should be undertaken by the Government. Mortgage tax relief helps the better-off, the commission states, at the expense of the poorer.

Community work for inner city areas, should be deployed according to policies that provide "adequate resources".

effective leadership by the laity. The church should experiment with a system of non-salaried clergy working in their own locality, with the selection criteria changed to make it open and attractive to non-middle class people.

The church should develop its ministerial skills in inner-city work by in situ training and day release. There is an "urgent" need for better theological training for inner city church workers, the commission says.

"Support" schemes for inner-city clergy should be reviewed and improved. There are particular pressures on clergy and their families in urban priority areas, the commission said. For single clergy, loneliness is a special problem in the inner city.

Anglican churches should be shared more widely with other denominations, especially with black-led churches in the inner city.

## Shadow of Milan hangs over battle for united Europe

From Richard Owen, Luxembourg

"This is a false crisis", one senior official said on the eve of today's Luxembourg summit. "The EEC has agreed this year on enlargement, budgetary issues, vehicle exhaust emissions. Talk of crisis is absolute nonsense."

None the less it is widely accepted as Mrs Margaret Thatcher, Chancellor Helmut Kohl and President Mitterrand gather here that the EEC has reached a watershed. It cannot afford "another Milan", where the previous summit in June broke up in bad-tempered disarray over fundamental reforms designed to shape a united Europe of 12 for the 1990s.

Those reforms, involving amendments to the Treaty of Rome, are still on the table, and have been further refined by the post-Milan Inter Governmental Conference, a grand sounding name for a series of foreign ministers' sessions.

The Luxembourg summit looks like being a battle between the "minimalists", led by Britain and Denmark, and the "maximalists", led by Italy and the Netherlands. As often, Mrs Thatcher angrily dismissed the whole IGC process as "airy fairy" and doomed to failure, and she still takes the view that treaty amendments must take second place to making the present EEC work better.

On some issues the British will be in tune with their partners, not least over Mrs Thatcher's widely praised demand for "deregulation", meaning a reduction in EEC red tape and burdensome controls over industry and enterprise.

There is also prior agreement on technology and the environment, and the proposed treaty on a common European foreign policy should receive a smooth passage, provided the French do not insist on the kind of co-ordinating secretariat regarded by Britain as "grandiose".

But the heart of the matter is the internal market, the complete abolition of trade barriers by 1992, and the creation of a "Europe without frontiers". France is pushing for an act of

European Union enshrining a broad concept of unity which Britain sees as dangerously imprecise.

On frontier controls, Britain insists that as an island it must keep strict control over drugs, terrorism, immigration, and plant, animal and human health. Complications also arise over Denmark and West Germany because of their desire to protect high safety and environmental standards.

The summit also faces the contentious issues of monetary cohesion and the powers of the European Parliament. M Jacques Delors, the Commission President, is bewildered by vociferous British and West German opposition to Commission proposals for enshrining the European Monetary System in the treaty.

As for Parliament, there is an agreed formula giving Strasbourg a "second reading" of Bills, but this delaying power will not satisfy the Italians and others seeking "popular democracy" in the EEC. Officials say they still hope for "clear cut decisions" on at least some of the reforms and treaty amendments. Luxembourg is after all associated with the celebrated "compromise" of 1966, when the Six (as they were) agreed to increase the use of majority voting to speed up unity, but allowed states to contract out if their interests were at stake.

But this merely underlines the fact that 20 years on, the Ten remain divided over the national veto and how far to shift from unanimous voting to a qualified majority. Unless they can inject some fresh political vision, EEC leaders may become hopelessly entangled in complex misunderstandings and conflicts of interest, and as one diplomat put it, "when wires get crossed, fuses get blown".

If EEC reform is again delayed, it will fall first to the Dutch to pick up the pieces when they take over the presidency of the Council of Ministers in January, and then to Britain - and Mrs Thatcher - in the second half of next year.

## Vivisection ban vetoed by Swiss

Geneva (AP) Swiss voters rejected an environmentalist proposal to ban almost all live animal experiments in a referendum yesterday. The Government and pharmaceutical industry had opposed it as a threat to research.

Defeat came when the constitutional amendment failed to master the required positive vote in more than half of Switzerland's 22 cantons.

Final tallies showed strong popular rejection, with more than 75 per cent of voters opposed in several cantons. The turn-out was about 40 per cent.

The drive to ban vivisection was led by Mr Franz Weber, Switzerland's most prominent environmentalist and co-chairman, with the French actress, Brigitte Bardot, of the International Saves the Seals campaign.

Leading the opposition was the powerful Swiss pharmaceutical industry, which financed a massive public relations campaign arguing a negative vote.

The Government, in leadership distributed to all Swiss households, gave a warning that approval would lead the industry to move its research abroad and called the measure irresponsible.

## Riot follows massacre of family

From Hasan Akhtar, Islamabad

The murder of seven members of a family in a Karachi slum led to a riot when hundreds of mourners blocked roads, stoned public and private transport, and then prevented police from clearing the roads and taking the bodies away for post mortem examinations.

Saturdays' murders in the city were the latest in a series which has spread panic across Pakistan. About 60 people have been victims of the "hammer murders" in different cities and towns as far apart as Karachi and Hazara in North-West Frontier province.

The worst incident was in Rawalpindi, seven miles from Islamabad, in which 13 people were bludgeoned to death with a hammer or similar weapon.

Afghanistan's secret service, KHAD, was suspected of instigating the murders, but police have not been able to confirm this. Instead, they seem to favour the vendetta motive resulting from family disputes.

Some Pakistani MPs have suggested enlisting the services of the FBI or Scotland Yard to solve the mystery.

Sixty people were arrested during Saturday's riots although 50 were later released.

## Canada's provinces insist on full role in US talks

From John Best, Ottawa

A potentially serious rift has developed between the Federal Government and Canada's 10 provinces over provincial participation in free trade negotiations with the United States.

At a two-day meeting in Halifax, provincial premiers served notice that they expect to be full and equal partners in the negotiations, but failed to get the Federal Prime Minister, Mr Brian Mulroney, to agree.

The conference, which ended on Friday, produced a statement saying that the premiers had agreed on "the principle of full provincial participation", but left open the question of how to put the principle into effect.

The provinces are demanding what amounts to a veto over the instructions to be given to the

chief Canadian negotiator. As the Premier of British Columbia, Mr William Bennett, told reporters: "We agree that we 11 governments will establish the mandate of the negotiators. Some are even talking of a seat at the negotiating table."

Mr Mulroney conceded that there should be "full input" from the provinces, but emphasized that "the ultimate responsibility is that of the Government of Canada."

The free trade question is rapidly coming to dominate the Canadian political agenda. Each region is concerned that its industry not be adversely affected by any bilateral deal.

Talks with the US are now expected to start much before the middle of 1986.

## Loneliness is just one problem

And it is a fairly common problem for students away from home for months at a time. But it is only one of the troubles that people bring to us. As a Christian society working among students we need to be aware of a range of help - spiritual, emotional, social and practical. And we are there, ready to give all the help we can in all parts of the world.

To give this help we depend entirely upon voluntary contributions. Please help us to continue the Anglican Church's ministry to students by a legacy or pledge and wherever you can to The Mission to Seamen, Freepost, London, EC4A 3EP.

The Mission to Seamen, St Michael's Paternoster Royal, College Lane, London EC4A 3EP.



## Black unions in united front

From Michael Hornsby  
Durban

A new trade union federation, the Congress of South Africa Trade Unions (Cosatu), which claims to represent more than 500,000 black workers in all the main sectors of the economy, was launched here yesterday at a rally in a rugby stadium attended by about 10,000 people.

The president of the new organization, Mr. Elias Barayi, a senior figure in the National Union of Mineworkers (NUM), told the cheering crowd that Cosatu would not only seek to improve the wages and work conditions of blacks but would also give its active support to their demands for political and social justice.

There were further cheers when Mr. Barayi gave President Botha six months to abolish the pass laws which curtail the movement of blacks outside the African reserves. "If he does not, we will burn our passes", he declared. (A similar defiance of the pass laws led to the fatal confrontation between black demonstrators and the police at Sharpeville in 1960.)

Mr. Barayi also said Cosatu was in favour of economic disinvestment by foreign countries in South Africa, and brushed aside the argument that such action would hurt blacks most. "Blacks have been starving here since 1652 (the date the first whites settled at the Cape)", he said.

This remark drew less applause than Mr. Barayi's description of Mr. Botha and his government colleagues as drunkards and criminals who must resign "and make way for rightful people such as Nelson



Mr. Barayi being carried in triumph by members of his new federation.

Mandela", the imprisoned leader of the African National Congress.

Cosatu is the product of four years of often painful debate among the independent black trade unions which began to emerge after 1979, when the Government gave blacks the statutory right to form such bodies.

There are 34 unions affiliated to Cosatu, which, with a total claimed paid-up membership of

450,520 and a signed-up membership of some 520,000, is now by far the biggest trade union federation in the country. It is seen to some extent as filling the vacuum left by the Government's action to control such overtly political organizations as the United Democratic Front.

One of the main objectives of Cosatu is to forge single, industry-wide unions, which will require the merger of different unions that now

weaken black bargaining power by competing against each other in the same industry. The ultimate aim is to reduce the present 34 unions to about 14.

The struggle for union unity has not been without its failures. Some 20 unions belonging to the black conscious-

ness-oriented Council of Unions of South Africa and the Asian Confederation of Trade Unions have stayed aloof from Cosatu.

## Poles queue as cost of petrol jumps

From Roger Boyes  
Warsaw

An unruly procession of Polish motorists, bumper to bumper in their Fiat, Wartburg and Toyotas, this weekend inaugurated a winter of austerity and rising prices. Feeling the pinch of limited Soviet oil supplies, Poland has raised by between 20 and 30 per cent the cost of low and high octane petrol and of diesel fuel.

The prices were increased on Sunday but the announcement came on Saturday and the result was long, lazy queues outside service stations. The move, which took most Poles by surprise, reflects serious official concern about energy supplies. The authorities have already admitted to a domestic coal shortage and electricity cuts seem a strong possibility.

Until now government propagandists have usually argued that Poles have a choice between rationing and higher prices. As successive goods have been taken out of the strict rationing system, so their prices have been pushed up to regulate demand.

Now petrol joins meat as being both rationed and more costly. Drivers of smaller cars receive a monthly ration of 24 litres while larger vehicles are allotted 36 litres. The result is considerable anger: petrol is more important to the functioning of everyday life in winter than in summer.

## Murder of Rhodesia's 'Boss'

## Past catches up with the architect of UDI politics

From Jan Raath, Harare

The weekend murder of the architect of white Rhodesian politics "all points to reprisals", Mr. Geoff Klucklow, a former Rhodesia Front chairman, said yesterday.

The body of Douglas Collard "Boss" Lilford, aged 78, was found late on Friday night, lying in a pool of blood outside his home, Lilford Estate, just west of Harare, where he lived alone. He appeared to have been assaulted, with his

hands tied behind his back, and then shot dead.

Domestic staff at Lilford Estate said a gang of black men, possibly as many as ten, had attempted to abduct the housemaid after attacking Mr. Lilford, but she escaped.

He may have injured one of the assailants. There was concern over how they had entered the home, described by neighbours as a fortress. There was no sign of a break-

in and no indication of anything having been stolen. A pay packet lay in full view in one of the rooms.

One of Mr. Lilford's cars appears to have been used as a getaway vehicle. It was later recovered in Chitungwiza township just outside Harare.

There was little doubt in the minds of supporters of the Conservative Alliance of Zimbabwe, the successor to the Rhodesia Front Party, that the killing was a reprisal for past behaviour.

Mr. Lilford won notoriety in the 1960s for a court case in which he was alleged to have whipped a herdsman with a sjambok. Inside the party, he was known as ruthless and an iron-handed disciplinarian.

He served as party chairman and vice-president, but gave up active politics in 1982 at the insistence of his late wife. Friends of the family described her as being obsessed with fears that he would be murdered by blacks for his political history.

Mr. Ian Smith, the former Rhodesian Prime Minister, described Mr. Lilford, who died a millionaire from his ranching, tobacco and race horse interests, as "my great friend", and said the murder was a ghastly act.

The alliance leaders have been severely shaken by the murder but observers believe it unlikely that it is enough to force the abandonment of their politics.

## Whites back Zimbabwe

From Our Correspondent, Harare

At midnight tonight the privilege of belonging to more than one nationality will be stricken from Zimbabwe's constitution. Nearly all of Zimbabwe's 100,000 whites will theoretically have become either Zimbabweans or aliens.

For most the choice has been an obvious one. During the past month they have stood in front of the registrar-general's office waiting for up to eight hours in queues that swelled each day. They filled in forms renouncing their foreign citizenship, handed over their foreign passports and applied for Zimbabwean citizenships.

In the case of the estimated 60,000 Britons who also hold Zimbabwean citizenship, the passports are posted to the British High Commission, which sends them straight back to the South African trade

mission cancels the passports of the 20,000-old South African Zimbabweans, but a trip across the border will enable them to apply for new ones.

Neither South Africa nor Britain recognizes an oath of renunciation made under Zimbabwean law. Furthermore, while the citizenship Act which repeals dual citizenship prohibits the use of foreign passports by Zimbabweans, there is nothing wrong with simply having one.

The swarms at the registrar-general's office apparently have not been convinced by the explicit statements in the act that permanent residents, a status acquired by living here for five years, "may do all things generally done by citizens", as well as assurances by cabinet ministers that aliens will face no persecution.

## Experts still baffled a year after Bhopal

From Michael Hamlyn, Delhi

Twelve months after the Bhopal gas tragedy scientists admitted yesterday that they still did not know what the gas was that killed perhaps as many as 2,500 people.

The anniversary of the leakage falls this evening, and will be marked in the town by a torchlight procession, but the chairman of a scientific commission appointed by the Indian Government to gather data about it could only say that "various possibilities are being examined".

Dr C. R. Krishnamurthi, a distinguished environmental toxicologist, said: "It could be methyl isocyanate, hydrocyanic acid, or phosgene." He added however that they had ruled out the possibility of carbon monoxide poisoning.

Dr. Krishnamurthi said that post mortem examination results indicated that the gas that spread over the sleeping city "had more than one entity".

Another member of the scientific commission, Dr J. S. Guleria, a chest doctor from the all-India Institute of Medical Sciences, said the effects of the gas still persisted in the population, and the average

thiocyanate level in the exposed people was "significantly high".

The poison gas came from a pesticide manufacturing plant of Union Carbide, killing mostly slum dwellers and their animals. More than 200,000 people were affected to a lesser extent, and many thousands of them still suffer from lung damage and eye trouble.

The plant is still under the technical charge of the Indian Government's Central Bureau of Investigation, but the plant's trade unionists actively prevent the owners from removing any of the stock, equipment or other fixtures or fittings. Outside the plant a statue of a fleeing woman will be unveiled tonight, and tomorrow a general strike has been called in the town.

Mr. Motilal Vora, the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, of which Bhopal is the capital, greeted the anniversary yesterday with a bitter message accusing Union Carbide of "a shamelessness unparalleled in human history".

He said agents of the "same death-dealing company" were spreading disinformation to evade their responsibilities.

## Cathedral cash taken by gunmen

New York (Reuters) - Police were searching two gunmen who robbed St Patrick's Cathedral, one of New York's best-known churches, of more than \$7,000 (\$4,700) gathered in collections earlier in the day.

The robbery occurred in the parish house, which is connected to the cathedral on fashionable Fifth Avenue by underground passages. The thieves put four ushers and two cleaners into a walk-in safe from which they stole the cash and locked a gate in front of it.

## Liberty auction

New York (AP) - A copy of the Statue of Liberty, one of many designed by Frederic-Auguste Bartholdi to raise money to build the 305ft high colossus in New York Harbour, fetched \$148,500 (£100,000) at auction here on Saturday, according to Sotheby's.

## Bonner visit

Moscow (AFP) Yelena Bonner, aged 61, wife of the Soviet dissident Andrei Sakharov, is due to leave today for eye tests in Italy. She will then cross the Atlantic for possible heart bypass surgery.

## Surge of violence hits Betancur peace efforts

Bogotá (NYT) - In the past two weeks there has been a surge of fighting and right-wing terrorism in Colombia's long guerrilla war, signaling a further setback to President Betancur's efforts to bring peace to his country.

Guerrillas of the April 19 Movement (M19), have carried out 15 attacks, including one in which they took over an entire town of 35,000 people and held it for nearly eight hours.

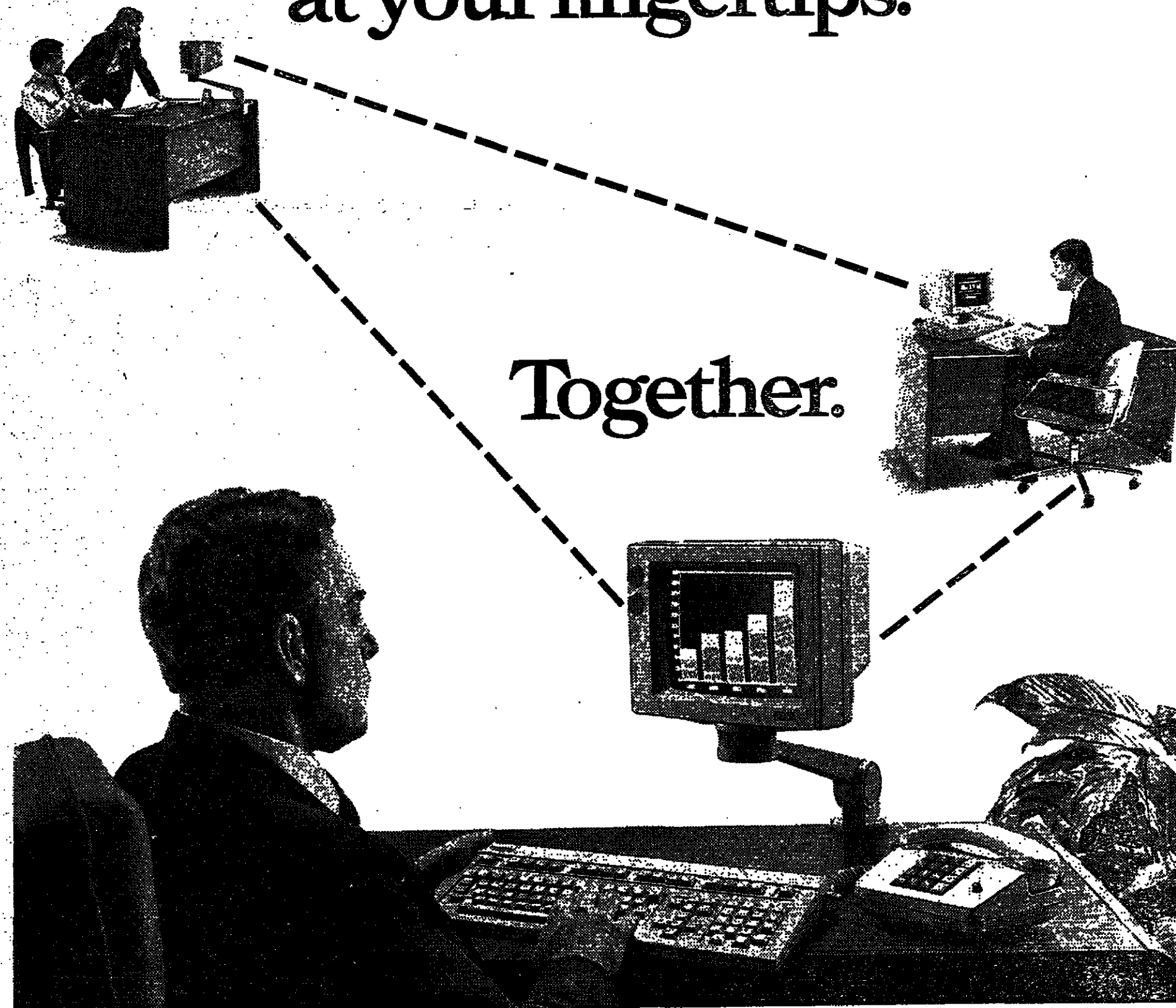
Para-military forces, said to be closely associated with Colombia's armed forces, are believed to be responsible for bombing the headquarters of the Communist Party and murdering two prominent left-wing leaders.

In the past few days M19 has

issued a series of threats to take over country clubs and public buildings and to kidnap executives of foreign corporations. Western political analysts say they believe M19 has been pressing the fight in an effort to demonstrate that it is still a potent force after the debacle at the Palace of Justice last month. About 100 people were killed when the military responded with overwhelming force to end a rebel siege of the palace.

● Kidnappers killed: Colombian troops killed 22 guerrillas of the Colombia Revolutionary Armed Forces during an operation at Apartado over the weekend to rescue a farmer kidnapped by the group (AFP reports).

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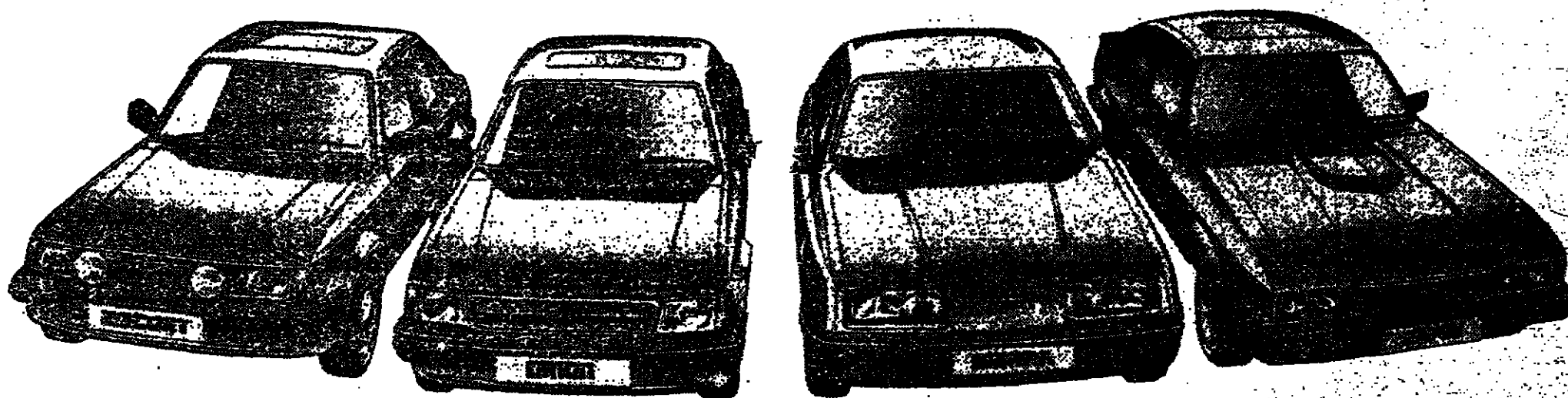
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<b>APR</b>	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>21.4%*</b>	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>21.4%*</b>	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>21.4%*</b>	<b>9.5%</b>	<b>21.4%*</b>
Cash Price**	6157.32	6157.32	7073.78	7073.78	8098.79	8098.79	6953.64	6953.64
Initial Payment (minimum 20%)	1231.46	1231.46	1414.76	1414.76	1619.76	1619.76	1390.73	1390.73
Amount of Credit	4925.86	4925.86	5659.02	5659.02	6479.03	6479.03	5562.91	5562.91
36 Monthly Instalments of	156.94	181.98	180.30	209.07	206.43	239.36	177.24	205.41
Charge for Credit	723.98	1625.42	831.78	1867.50	952.45	2137.93	817.75	1834.76
Total Credit Price	6881.30	7782.74	7905.56	8941.28	9051.24	10236.72	7771.37	8788.40
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## Spain's law on aliens may end the years of golden exile

## Time is running out for fugitives in the sun

From Harry Debellus, Madrid

Time is running out here for fugitives from British justice. Middle East gunmen, international drug dealers and a host of Latin American crooks, not to mention less fortunate illegal immigrants like Africans on starvation wages or families of Portuguese beggars.

That, at any rate, is the hope of Spanish law enforcement officials. Spain's new law on aliens, the first comprehensive legislation on the subject since 1852, is expected to help it to purge those elements from the body politic of the post-Franco democracy.

Foreigners living or working in Spain have until January 31 to get their papers in order. After that, the undocumented will be fair prey for immigration officials.

The law nails down such things as the requirements for a work permit (without which foreigners may not be gainfully employed), a vital matter for non-Spaniards which in the past often seemed to depend more on the whim of local officials than on any specific regulations.

Because it replaces many earlier regulations and scraps of law, it gives authorities a single set of rules for dealing with foreigners, which should eliminate such anomalies as the arbitrary imprisonment - often for months - of indigent immigrants awaiting expulsion and the golden exile of "tour-

ists" wanted for questioning in their home countries in connection with serious crimes.

It does not, of course, substitute for extradition treaties, but it does offer a better tool for refusing to grant or renew residence permits.

It assures certain rights and obligations of foreign residents, including the right (on a regional basis) to vote in municipal but not general elections.

At the same time, it establishes fines of up to two million pesetas (£8,658) which can be levied without trial by the Interior Ministry.

## The men Britain cannot reach

Among the Britons still thought to be enjoying life in Spain's balmy coasts are a Bristol jeweller, Mr John Palmer, wanted by Scotland Yard to help with inquiries into the £26 million Brinks-Mat heist; Mr John Mason, Mr John Everett, Mr Ronald Knight and Mr Frederick Foreman, wanted for questioning in connection with the £6.4 million Security Express robbery; and Mr Keith Raymond Cottingham, wanted to help inquiries into the package bomb killing of a Kent woman.

Spain's ombudsman, Señor Joaquín Ruiz-Jiménez, is not satisfied with the guarantees it contains and has asked the courts to rule on its constitutionality. Citizens of Gibraltar with a profession or those who set up a business do not need work permits. Andorrans also get a break.

Latin Americans, Portuguese, Filipinos, Equatorial Guineans and Sephardic Jews are singled out for special consideration with regard to work and residence permits.

Foreigners must seek permission to remain in the country more than 90 days. This cancels a privilege previously enjoyed by North Americans, Australians and some others, who were allowed to stay six months - twice as long as Europeans - without a visa.

Nearly four months after the law was published, Interior Ministry officials rectified an oversight. No provision had been made for the Moroccan population of Spain's North African enclaves of Ceuta and Melilla.

A special regulation was therefore drawn up, providing that Moroccan residents would be issued new special identity cards to allow them to travel but it would not entitle them to live and work anywhere in Spain except in the enclaves.



Mr Chatwin (left) and Mr Gilson after being taken into custody in Denia.

## Judge rules on Chatwin detention

Madrid - A judge in the east coast Spanish town of Denia has authorized police to hold a British jeweller, Mr Robert Chatwin, for a further 72 hours before the formal presentation of charges in connection with a stolen car ring (Harry Debellus writes).

Mr Chatwin, wanted by Scotland Yard for questioning since he closed his shops in the Midlands and turned up in Spain with a large quantity of jewels, was taken into custody last Wednesday with another Briton, Mr Anthony Gilson, and a Spanish woman.

Police found two missing French cars allegedly in the possession of Mr Chatwin and the woman. Mr Chatwin, who spent six months in a Spanish prison last year pending trial for an alleged customs violation, was free on bail at the time of his latest detention.

## Rights groups seek to cut killings of journalists

By Caroline Moorehead

Last year 23 journalists were murdered. Three died in the Philippines and three in Colombia. The rest were killed in locations throughout Latin America, the Middle East, Africa and the United States.

In Mozambique, Pedro Tivane, Deputy Editor of *Noticias*, was axed to death in a rebel ambush; in Italy, Giuseppe Fava was shot through the window of his car soon after appearing on television to talk about the Mafia.

These are just the deaths. During the same 12 months, according to a research paper prepared for the World Press Freedom Committee, 81 other journalists were wounded, 205 jailed and 50 expelled from the countries they were working in.

As Mr James Campbell, a journalist reporting in Northern Ireland and himself at different times shot at, kidnapped and beaten up, writes in the current issue of *Index on Censorship*:

"My family, like myself and other journalist-targets, have come to fear late-night knocks at the door."

Today in Amsterdam a group of representatives from different human rights organizations are meeting at the invitation of *Index* and the Committee to Protect Journalists, an American organization, to try yet again to set up some kind of safety net for journalists in danger. From their discussions, they hope, will come a means of pooling the information that reaches them so that they can coordinate resources.

The idea of seeking an internationally agreed procedure to protect journalists at risk has been regularly debated over since the foundation of IPI, the International Press Institute, 30 years ago. Not until recently, however, as the position of journalists has been seen to be worsening rapidly, have active steps been taken.

## Liberation theology bedevils synod

From Peter Nichols Rome

A clash over liberation theology lent an unexpectedly sharp focus to the start of the second week of deliberations at the Vatican synod of bishops over the weekend.

The special synod is now at the halfway point in its review of the way in which the teachings of the Second Vatican Council have been applied during the intervening 20 years.

The clash over liberation theology made leading Latin American prelates take up diametrically opposed positions on the acceptability of the attempt to focus the Church's mind on the contemporary scene in Latin America. Typically, the nature and the very fact of the clash emerged indirectly in the wake of discussion outside the synod hall and an ill-judged attempt by one of the synod's presiding officers to deny that it had taken place.

The subject is delicate. The Pope is known to have little sympathy for liberation theology. Many of its aspects were formally criticized in a document last year emanating from the Sacred Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith. Another document said to be more favourable to this theory, was due to be published about now.

Rumours that liberation theology had been the subject of a confidential message to the Pope from a group of conservative cardinals just before the synod began was denied by Cardinal Krol, the Archbishop of Philadelphia, who is one of the synod's presidents.

However, at the weekend the cardinal's message was published in the Spanish edition of the Vatican newspaper, *L'Osservatore Romano*, and an explanation of Cardinal Krol's denial was promised.

It was written by Cardinal Corripio Ahumada, the Mexican Primate. The message thanked the Pope for the Vatican's criticism of liberation theology, calling for Rome's continued support against what Cardinal Ahumada saw to be threats to the faith. About 15 other cardinals are said to have added their signatures to the message.

The affair of the misplaced denial might have ended there if Saturday's issue of *L'Osservatore Romano* had not published another statement on liberation theology, this time a highly favourable one. It came from Mgr Ivo Lorscheiter.

## Armenians face arms charges in Paris

Paris (Reuters) - Monte Melkonian, leader of the moderate Armenian National Movement, Zibour Kassabar, a woman member of the organization and Benjamin Kechechian, a journalist, have been charged here with possessing arms explosives and false identity papers and consorting with known criminals. They were kept in custody.

The movement broke away from the hardline Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia after it carried out a bloody bomb attack at Orly airport in July 1983.

## Rio prize for Armero film

Rio de Janeiro (AP) - An international film festival jury gave the Golden Toucan award to a Colombian film *Tiempo de Mórir* that was shot in the town of Armero before its destruction by a volcano.

Glenda Jackson in *The Turtle Diary* and Cristina Park of Canada in *90 Days* tied for the best actress award.

## Kennel prisoner

Manila (AFP) - Police are reported to have rescued a 13-year-old housemaid who was chained with a dog inside a kennel for two days after being accused of stealing from her employers in the southern Philippines.

## Lebanon toll

Beirut (Reuters) - Violence in Lebanon claimed 130 lives last month, the lowest death toll since January's count of 73 and well below the October figure of 385, security, hospital and militia sources said.

## Propless plane

Jakarta (AP) - A wheel fell off a Mandala Airline Electra and hit a house, but no one was hurt when the plane later crash-landed, in Medan, North Sumatra, losing all four propellers, a newspaper reported.

## Protest death

Hamburg (Reuters) - An elderly man died and several people were injured when 2,000 protesters demonstrated outside a "Conservative Action" group meeting held to demand the release of Hitler's former deputy, Rudolf Hess.

## Former Rumasa chief on trial

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Señor José María Ruiz Matos, once the owner of Spain's largest private business empire, will today begin testifying before a Madrid magistrate specializing in financial crimes after being extradited from West Germany at the weekend.

The hearing marks the end of an extraordinary adventure which began on the night of February 23, 1983, when the Socialist Government expropriated the Señor Ruiz Matos Rumasa conglomerate, maintaining that its liabilities exceeded assets by more than £1 billion. The Government stepped in because it claimed it feared for the stability of the whole financial system of Spain.

Señor Ruiz Matos claims to be not guilty of the two alleged offences of fraud and falsifying commercial documents relating

to Rumasa on the basis of which the West German authorities agreed to extradite him to Spain. He could face a maximum sentence of six years in jail if found guilty.

The self-made businessman, who started in sherry but built up an empire that included 18 banks during the Franco boom years, regards himself as an innocent victim of an expropriation plot hatched, according to him, by the Socialists in league with the stuffy Spanish banking establishment.

During the two years he was a fugitive from justice, Señor Ruiz Matos lived in London, the United States, the Caribbean and finally in West Germany. When, in December, 1983, he lost an appeal against the Rumasa nationalization law, approved by Spain's

Parliament, Señor declared that he "not longer had any confidence in Spanish justice".

Three months later, in another inflammatory statement he accused King Juan Carlos in a magazine interview of "finishing him off" by signing the original expropriation decree.

In his most recent broadside, while vainly pleading for political asylum in West Germany, he said that he feared assassination by the Spanish Government. "Unfortunately, many people die in Spanish jails," he told the West German court.

The increasingly paranoid tone of the Andalusian magnate's allegations, delivered without any proof, has somewhat lessened Madrid's worries about bringing him home.

## IS THE GOVERNMENT GENUINELY LOOKING AT BOTH CROSS CHANNEL PROPOSALS?

Government representatives from Britain and France are currently evaluating various proposals for a Channel fixed link. Both governments are keen to reach a final decision in early 1986. (How on earth can they wade through an estimated 10 tons of documentation so quickly?)

This determination to force the issue suggests that both governments have already made up their minds - there will be a Channel fixed link, come hell or high water.

Quite clearly, both governments are suffering from tunnel vision. They are closing their eyes to the fact that the ferries already provide a flexible and efficient service. A service that offers a wide choice of points of arrival and departure.

And with the advent of 'Super Ferries' this cross-Channel proposal will offer cheaper fares than any fixed link can promise. A fixed link needs to create a monopoly to be financially viable. This would sink all the Continental ferry routes, not just Dover-Calais and open the floodgates to higher fixed link fares.

No matter what the British government might say, one thing is crystal clear. It is only looking at half of the story. And by doing so, it is turning a blind eye to the case for Britain's cross-Channel ferries.

## THE CHANNEL TUNNEL

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# Thai Army officers face year-long show trial on botched coup attempt

From Paul Routledge, Singapore

The alleged plotters of the abortive September 9 coup in Bangkok go on trial on Wednesday amid continuing uncertainty about the next moves of Thailand's soldier-politicians.

Few expect the whole truth to emerge during the unprecedented show trial of the military tipped to last an entire year. The capital is alive with rumours about top-level Army men whose complicity in the botched bid for power has been swept under the carpet.

But the failed coup - the fifteenth in the nation's modern history and the second to shake the Government of former General Prem Tinsulanonda - has prompted a widespread reappraisal of the political direction that Thailand is taking. Western diplomats are cautiously chalking up some gains for democracy.

"People were saying that coups were going out of fashion, and the events of September 9 made them gulp," one respected observer commented. "But despite what happened, they are still saying the same thing. The failed coup is a blip on the graph - not a trend in a new direction or a reverse to the old direction."

According to this assessment, the general trend of the graph is towards a parliamentary democracy, with a constitutional monarch traditionally above

politics but enjoying the support of the people and close relationships with the armed services and the politicians.

It is generally accepted that the coup bid led by former Colonel Manoon Rookachorn, the darling of the Army's "young Turks" cashiered for his role in the equally unsuccessful April Fool's Day coup of 1981, collapsed within 12 hours because the plotters failed to win sufficiently widespread backing among the military.

The lesson of the brief but bloody encounter three months ago appears to be that the soldier-politicians who believe they inherit a unique mantle of social responsibility to "rescue" the country from the politicians when they feel like it, can no longer expect to get their way.

Not many analysts would predict that the day of the coup has gone for good. But Army officers impatient of the democratic process will have to carry a much wider spectrum of support within the factionalized armed forces and the critical backing of King Bhumibol Adulyadej to have any hope of changing the government with Korean War-vintage M41 tanks.

Alternatively, they could hang up their uniforms and face the electorate at the ballot box. There are signs that more military top brass are beginning to favour this route, and the

Thai people are showing a readiness to vote for them.

General Chalong Srimuang, aged 50, a crew-cut vegetarian and devout Buddhist, swapped his gold braid for traditional farmer's robes and swept the orthodox political parties from the field to win the governorship of Bangkok last month. The soldiers voted for him, but so did more than half of those who took part in the poll.

Other top-level military figures are attracted to this avenue to power. General Chaovalit Yongchaiyut, the army chief of staff and the man in line to become commander in chief of the armed forces next autumn, has signalled his intention to retire early at 55 in 1987 and take up a political career.

General Chaovalit, who played a key role in suppressing the September revolt, in the absence abroad of the commander in chief General Arthit Kamlang-Ek, is the man credited with developing Prime Ministerial Order 66/2523 (the counter-insurgency campaign against the Thai Communist Party) into a political and social programme of rehabilitation from the old tactics of "search and destroy". Order 66/2523 was something of a watershed: It redefined the Army's role to include "national development and the enhancement of democracy".



Festive dressing for the trees along the Champs-Élysées as Paris gears up for Christmas

## The magic kingdom which became a paradise lost

From Trevor Fishlock, New York

Bit by bit, paradise is closing down. The people who were pined for in Oregon, there to live happily ever after, are leaving in their disillusioned droves.

The sudden departure of Bhagwan Shree Rajneesh, the guru who founded the Utopian community of Rajneeshpuram, was akin to the pulling of a bath-plug. His leaving demonstrated only the fragility of the cult.

Today the winding road from Rajneeshpuram is a road of

retreat. Bunches of *sannyasin* - disciples - wearing the red clothing and beads ordained by the guru, make their way out into the real world. The guru's paradise collapsed when the evidence of its tensions, jealousies, totalitarian streak and bitter power struggles broke through the veneer of serenity and love. The Bhagwan, who is 53 and delicate, surrounded himself with fiercely glaring armed guards.

Matters came to a head when his principal aide, who had taken to wearing a revolver, quit the valley for

Germany, saying: "To hell with Bhagwan." She and others were arrested in Germany on charges that they had attempted to murder the guru's doctor.

The white-bearded guru, meanwhile, was charged with arranging fake marriages to enable foreigners to settle in his commune. In a deal with the authorities this month he paid a \$400,000 fine and left the country. He is now back in India.

The whole episode has been a controversial and bizarre spectacle for Oregonians.

Bhagwan abruptly left his commune in India four years ago, to the bewilderment of his followers. He turned up in Oregon and his organization bought the ranch on which they built Rajneeshpuram for nearly \$6 million.

The commune remains under investigation. The authorities are trying to tie the loose ends of the magic kingdom. The *Rajneesh Times*, serving an ever-dwindling readership, says that the guru's followers should not follow him back to India. Like Greta Garbo he wants to be left alone.

## Madrid to hold spring referendum on Nato

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

After weeks of confusion, Señor Felipe González, Spain's Prime Minister, has given his countrymen a clear promise to hold a referendum on Nato membership in mid-March, and has begun the campaign to persuade them to remain in the alliance.

Under the psychological impact of joining the European Community, public opinion is increasingly coming round to accepting his Government's change of attitude towards Nato since taking office three years ago. The Prime Minister's strategy was revealed in a weekend broadcast.

Señor González, brushing aside manoeuvres by the Opposition to force the Government to hold the so-called Nato debate in Parliament this month, indicated that he wanted a quick, sharp campaign preceded by a debate in Parliament early in February.

The Socialist Prime Minister, who while in opposition favoured the idea of a referendum as a means of quitting Nato, urged his countrymen to realize that once integrated into Europe "no one would understand how Spain wishes to leave Nato, while remaining in the EEC".

He repeated his pledge that staying in Nato would not mean either integrating into Nato's command structure or sending Spanish troops to serve abroad.

## JOURNEY TO THE HEART OF THE MALT

(A real life romance.)

AS ONE OF THE GREAT DELIGHTS OF CIVILIZED MANKIND, The Macallan's progress from select obscurity in the Highlands to its present celebrity has been most gratifying. Indeed, you can now ask for The Macallan at most of the better establishments in the British Isles and be reasonably sure of obtaining your reward. *Huzzah!*

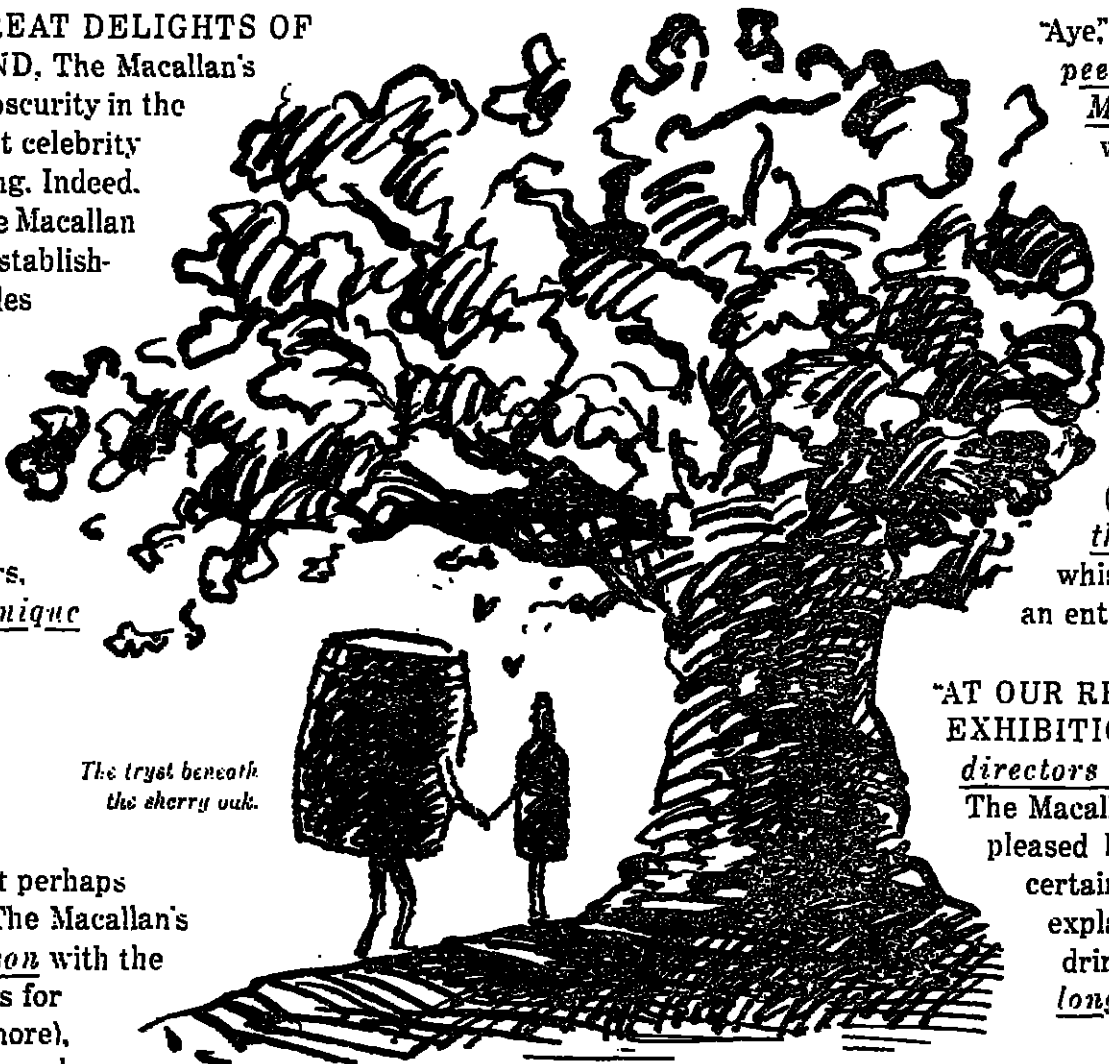
BUT WHY, LOVERS of The Malt enquire in ever-increasing numbers, should they feel *this unique affection* for a whisky when so many other sprightly suitors have left them unmoved?

THERE ARE MANY EXPLANATIONS, but perhaps the most satisfying is The Macallan's *own remarkable liaison* with the Sherry Cask. Here it lies for 10 long years (often more), imbuing both a golden colour and luscious redolence from oak which has previously played host to Dry Oloroso sherry, before it is allowed out to meet the bottle.

THIS MAGICAL ENCOUNTER with the Wood (so often in myth and literature a place of *romantic discovery*) perhaps best explains the special relationship which Mankind has developed with The Malt - a relationship well illustrated by a favoured reminiscence from Commander Peter Craig, R.N.

AS A SMALL BOY, he accompanied his grandfather and Hamish the Ghillie (with his labrador Ben) on a fishing expedition. By mischance, he fell into the swirling water and Ben leapt in to retrieve him. Near death, he and the exhausted dog were hauled up onto the bank.

"Quick, Hamish. The Macallan" cried Grandfather. A large dram of the precious unguent was poured down Ben's throat and, in a trice, he was up on his feet, licking the colour back to the boy's frozen cheeks. "A near thing," gasped Grandfather.



The trust beneath the sherry oak.

"Aye," replied Hamish, *resignedly peering at the remains of The Macallan*. "I dinna ken where we'd ha' found anither dog like Ben."

IN THIS VEIN, Miss Meiklejohn's sacrifice of The Macallan to revive her beloved guppies also springs to mind, but a bulletin from Speyside (where The Macallan is still *the best-selling* of all the malt whiskies) puts the matter onto an entirely human plane.

"AT OUR RECENT MORAY FOOD EXHIBITION," *one of The Macallan directors writes*, "all those on The Macallan stand were greatly pleased by the approach of a certain lady. She was not, she explained, normally a whisky drinker, but her husband was a *long-term devotee* of The Malt."

However, the poor man was confined to his bed, and all the more miserable at the thought of missing out on a free dram.

So, if we did not mind, perhaps we could allow her to drink the dram herself, whereupon she promised to *dash straight home* and give her husband a *big kiss* which she was sure would revive him immediately."

BUT ENOUGH OF WORDS. Love is a subjective experience. As Dr Johnson remarked: "*You may teach a man kindness but you cannot make him fond.*" The Macallan has an appeal that lies far beyond the merely rational.



May we suggest a get-together today?

THE MACALLAN. THE MALT.

## Mounting fears of catastrophe

## Playing politics with poison in the US

Alarm over the effects of acid rain is growing in the United States. In the first of two articles MICHAEL BINYON, Washington Correspondent, explains how a long-standing problem has suddenly taken a sharp turn for the worse.

Lakes are as acid as tomato soup. Trees are stunted. Fish and frogs have vanished from the ponds and streams or languish sterile and cancerous in the poisoned waters. Every day the gentle rain from heaven drops creeping death.

America the beautiful is being eaten away by acid rain. Suddenly the distress symptoms are appearing all over the country - in the Rocky Mountains, in south-western deserts, on the vast prairies and in woodlands of the northern lake country. In the Adirondack region of New York State, more than 200 lakes and ponds can no longer support fish life, while across the border in Ontario some 1,200 lakes are already dead and an estimated 150,000 dying.

Salamanders, especially sensitive to acidification, have all but disappeared from Arizona and New Mexico. Damage to America's buildings and monuments amounts to an estimated \$2,000 million a year. Scientists have warned of the dangers for years. But, as in West Germany, things have suddenly worsened. Official complacency has given way to alarm in state legislatures around the nation as the evidence of an impending catastrophe mounts. Only in Washington does nonchalance still prevail. Few people have forgotten President Reagan's remark that "killer trees" caused pollution.

Acid rain has become the biggest point of dispute between Canada and the US, and the passions in Canada run high. Half of all chemical depositions in Canada come from the US, and the issue comes up at every meeting between the President and the Canadian Prime Minister. The Canadians are incensed that the Reagan Administration has consistently played down the damage to Canada's fragile ecological system by airborne pollutants blown north-east from the coal-fired power stations in the Midwest. Acid rain to the Canadians has become a symbol of American self-interest, of US refusal to deal equitably with its northern neighbour.

Acid rain, however, is also a point of contention south of the border, though this time it is the US complaining about a new smelter in Mexico that will produce an estimated 1,400 tons of sulphur dioxide when it starts production next month. Already smelters on either side

of the border generate 1,100 tons a day, part of about 24 million tons speeded by the US into the atmosphere each year - an amount equal to the total output of West Europe.

The public reaction has been less vociferous and politically aggressive than in Europe.

Americans do not have the mythical and emotional attachment to their trees and forests that Germans do, nor is the damage so widespread as yet. Moreover, the big environmental scare began here at least a decade before it worried Europe, and stiff regulations, especially on car exhaust and new power station burners, have already been introduced.

Acid rain is only one aspect of environmental poisoning, however. Leakage from the country's 21,000 toxic chemical dumps is currently of more urgent concern, as a five-year-old federal programme to clean up the sites expires in September.

There is deadlock in Congress on reauthorizing the billions of dollars needed for the so-called "superfund" to clean up the sites. Plans to deal with 139 sites have been suspended. Meanwhile, the danger grows of seepage into water supplies, contamination of food chains, and the cumulative poisoning of the lakes.

In Pittman, New Jersey, for example, 2,400 gallons of toxic chemicals leak each day into Alcyon Lake. In the Great Lakes, where acid rain is less of a problem because the underlying limestone is able to "buffer" the acidity, toxic pollution threatens to choke the lakes with algae and make the water undrinkable. Scientists have identified nearly 1,000 man-made chemicals in the lakes, and with 90 per cent of the pollutants coming from the US side the issue again bedevils US-Canadian relations.

The US has refused to join the so-called "30 per cent club" of nations pledged to cutting sulphur dioxide emissions. It argues that it has long had regulations as stringent as any in Europe, and is far ahead on controlling car fumes. Nevertheless, nitrogen oxide emissions have tripled in the last 30 years and sulphur dioxide output is not falling.

The Reagan Administration insists not enough is known about the causes of acid rain to pass new legislation or introduce new taxes on the polluters.

Tomorrow: Bureaucracy

## Japan in thrall to Rajiv

Tokyo - Mr Rajiv Gandhi concluded the first official visit to Japan by an Indian prime minister for 16 years yesterday leaving behind a revitalized relationship (David Watts writes).

His soft-spoken, direct and businesslike approach to his country's modernization was precisely that understood best by Japanese government officials, business and industry.

"One got the impression that this was the start of something," an Indian who added Mr Gandhi's meeting with Keidanren, the business association, said.

The most immediate fruits of

the visit are the near doubling of Japanese credits for the year, with an additional 30 billion yen (£100 million) to be used for the harnessing of natural gas in Assam and a science and technology agreement under which a committee will be created to seek new opportunities for co-operation.

The eighteenth meeting of the Japan-India Joint Economic Committee, attended by about 100 Japanese business leaders, agreed to technology transfer in the fields of car parts and electronics and to study the possibility of joint ventures in coal gasification and oil exploration, as well as technical help for Indian agriculture.



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## SPECTRUM

GORBACHOV: Do you believe I wouldn't attack you? REAGAN: Well, I've got quite a bit of reassurance on that during this session

## When all the smiling had to stop

Aides at the summit speak of "finger pointing", of "strong eye contact", of "sharp disagreements" and of plain "funk" when Reagan and Gorbachov sat down behind closed doors in Geneva. David Gergen, former White House Director of Communications in the Reagan administration, has pieced together this blow-by-blow account of a meeting that made history



Table talk: Gorbachov was sitting back, very fixed in eye contact with Reagan. He didn't say anything for a while

Before the public, Reagan and Gorbachov were all smiles and joviality but in private, behind the closed doors of the summit rooms, the two leaders exchanged words that were deadly serious, earnest, even bitterly sharp. At no time in his presidency had Reagan spent so much time with a single leader, nor spoken with more animation. "He was working at 60 miles an hour, and he had more to say than there was time to say it," one aide said.

Gorbachov came to Geneva just as anxious to explain and, if possible, persuade. As a result, both men devoted most of two full days to lengthy, often pointed, exchanges. Reagan opened with a 15-to-20-minute statement. The gist of his message: until we can believe what the other person says, we cannot take a leap of faith.

Gorbachov agreed and began to level his case against the "myths" he said existed in America about the Soviet Union. He complained that the American defence industry was too close to the U.S. Government and was wrongly depicting the Soviet Union as a threat. He said two U.S. think tanks - the Hoover Institute and the Heritage Foundation - were promoting "a design to break down the Soviet economy" as part of a campaign against Soviet security.

#### Reagan picked off the nations where Moscow had interfered

Reagan replied that he was pleased Gorbachov had raised that point because it typified the misunderstandings they must correct. The defence industry, he contended, was an important, but not crucial, part of the American

economy. He then sought to reassure Gorbachov that he personally felt it would be wrong to damage the Soviet economy - Washington's tinkering with its own free-enterprise system had often backfired.

Gorbachov spoke without heat, but with great force, making occasional comments that, to Reagan's mind, conveyed a complete misconception of the U.S. The President "was very surprised that Gorbachov's assertions could be so wide of the mark," one aide said.

Yet the give and take lasted more than an hour. Gorbachov began a more formal session by suggesting they should merely acknowledge old problems and move on. The Americans, however, were not buying what one called "a transparent ploy" to skirt troublesome areas and move into areas of benefit to Moscow.

Reagan explained America's concerns about the Soviet military build-up, saying that it not only increased U.S. vulnerability but invited Soviet expansionism. He ticked off the nations where Moscow and its surrogates had interfered over the past decade.

Gorbachov suggested that Washington and Moscow respect one another's responsibilities in different parts of the world. One area he singled out was the Middle East, where he insisted that the Soviet Union had a legitimate role to play and that "nothing can be achieved without us."

Reagan gave him no encouragement. Instead, he chose another moment to raise Afghanistan, breaking into a long monologue on its recent history to call the Soviet invasion an "unwarranted use of power." Gorbachov replied that the Soviets had no desire to stay there forever and were willing to discuss the problem further in other forums. Gorbachov repeatedly made it clear

in the early rounds that he wanted the Soviet Union to be treated as an equal. "He was saying in effect, don't disparage us - treat us with respect."

The morning session ended amiably. But it was not long before the talks became combative as an afternoon meeting on arms issues opened up. Reagan spoke at length about the uncivilized nature of any doctrine that maintains peace by threat of mutual destruction. Displaying obvious emotion, the president said: "I simply cannot condone the notion that human beings can only keep the peace by threatening to blow each other away." He added that he was "very conscious" that the Soviets fear his planned strategic defence initiative - Star Wars or SDI - is a cover for developing a first-strike nuclear capability.

Gorbachov tried to interrupt but Reagan insisted on finishing. For about 30 minutes, he addressed what he said were legitimate concerns about Star Wars and explaining his offer to share laboratory research and technology. "By the end of Reagan's presentation," one senior American aide, said "Gorbachov was sitting back, very fixed in eye contact with Reagan. He sat and pondered it. He didn't say anything for a while."

Then the Soviet leader responded on these lines: I understand exactly what you are saying, but I disagree with it. It is very clear you feel strongly, but it seems to me that it is a feeling based on emotion, not on a realistic reckoning with the facts. Gorbachov spoke, in thoughtful, deliberate tones but gradually grew sharper. He accused the U.S. of

trying to gain a military advantage. Washington, he argued, was not only trying to secure a first-strike capability but was plotting to put new offensive weapons into space.

A conversation to this effect followed. Reagan: I've explained to you that when we had a monopoly on nuclear weapons, we didn't use it. Why don't you trust me?

Gorbachov: Do you believe that I wouldn't attack you?

Reagan: Well, I've got quite a bit of reassurance on that during this session. But any American leader has to base his plans upon the other side's capabilities.

Gorbachov forcefully summed up, repeating charges that Washington was bent on damaging the Soviet economy, that Star Wars was doomed in any event to technical

failure and that America's real interest was in securing a military edge in space. "You can see I am very excited about this," he told Mr Reagan.

When Gorbachov finished speaking there was silence in the room, broken only when the Soviet leader remarked that it appeared an impasse had been reached. Reagan then urged him to reconsider his comments about sharing research and technology and opening laboratories. Then to break the tension, the President suggested that the two go out for a stroll to a nearby pool house.

But before the two left, Reagan raised another sticky issue. He handed Gorbachov a paper proposing that the negotiators be ordered to seek cuts of at least 50 per cent in offensive nuclear weapons and try to

achieve an interim agreement on intermediate-range weapons and should discuss ways of moving from offensive to defensive weapons and that they come up with stronger verification measures. The paper also asked that the two sides seek agreement in five other areas: reductions of conventional forces, confidence-building measures, a global ban on chemical weapons, risk-reduction measures and efforts to curb nuclear proliferation.

Gorbachov read the paper thoughtfully and then told Reagan: but this allows SDI to continue. Yes, Reagan replied, it must. It was then that the Soviet chief said that more talk was necessary if the SDI disagreement were ever to be resolved.

#### Gorbachov emphasized his points by striking the table top

The two leaders then got up and left the warmth of the fireside. They were "in a kind of funk," reported one adviser, describing the mood at the time. On the walk back to the summit meeting room, Reagan tried to strike a note of optimism, pointing out that some agreements had been reached. Gorbachov's response was a single word: "yes."

Reagan: Don't you think talks would be useful? I would like to invite you to meet in Washington.

Gorbachov: And I would like to invite you to Moscow.

Reagan: I accept.

Gorbachov: And I, too, accept.

On the second and final day, much the same ground was covered, along with such fresh topics as human rights.

The pace of the talks quickened, becoming, one aide said, "faster than a ping-pong match, with remarks going back and forth... and Gorbachov demanding answers." The Soviet leader emphasized his points by striking the table top and pointing his finger. He asked, "Who is threatening whom?" In reply, Reagan said Soviet involvement in Angola and Afghanistan suggested that Moscow was not interested in peace.

What impressions did Mr Reagan draw of Gorbachov from their time together? "He found him a very impressive, self-confident and driven man," one adviser replied. Back in Washington, the President himself said that he felt Gorbachov approached the talks with sincerity. "I think I'm some judge of acting, and I don't think he was acting."

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Party time: the Film Fun Grand Christmas Number, 1933, includes (from left to right) Chester Conklin, Hardy, Laurel, Joe E. Brown, Harold Lloyd, and Jimmy Durante

Who, of a certain age, does not remember *Film Fun*, with Laurel and Hardy on the front cover, and Jimmy "Schnozzle" Durante and Joe E. Brown gracing its pages?

For more than half a century it was the comic strip adjunct to happy hours at the local pit, transporting celluloid idols to the permanence of the printed page. It was on the bookshelves every Tuesday, a bumper twopenny worth, and at its peak sold half a million copies.

*Film Fun* was the brainchild of Frederick George Cordwell, a plump, bald-headed man with bushy eyebrows who traded on his resemblance to the music hall star, George Robey. Cordwell started his career as office boy to Lord Northcliffe, whose Amalgamated Press was to publish the new paper.

By the time he was 24 Cordwell was editor of two comic papers and later moved to a third, *Merry and Bright*, which featured the country's leading variety artists. But he shrewdly realized that the great days of music hall were past and suggested a new comic based on the up and coming medium of cinema. The first issue of *Film Fun* appeared in January 1920. Cordwell himself often appeared in the strips, as "Eddie the Happy Editor", generously giving Laurel and Hardy a holiday because they had been working so hard. No payment was ever made to use a comedian's name or character. When Laurel and Hardy visited England the artist who drew

## How film stars made the comics

their strip begged to be allowed to meet them. Happy Eddie refused, in case they asked for money.

The choice of comedy often reflected Cordwell's prejudice. He could not stand Danny Kaye, so Kaye was never featured. Other comedians, from Charlie Chaplin to Arthur Askey, did not appear because they had been snapped up by rival papers. Otherwise *Film Fun* reflected the full roster of comedy talent from the cinema's Golden Age.

The original cast included the lumbering Mack Swain, who was to book his ticket to immortality by stooging for Chaplin in *The Gold Rush* and Winkie, "the Fathe Mirth Wizard", who was, in fact, Harold Lloyd. Laurel and Hardy made their debut in 1930 and lasted for 27 years, long after their cinema prime was past.

There were British comics, too, notably George Formby, whose domineering wife Beryl insisted on vetting all the

artwork before publication, and another Lancastrian, the outrageous Frank Randle. Southern youngsters may have been puzzled by Randle, since his films were rarely shown south of Birmingham.

British American *Film Fun* put all its comedians in the same urban working class setting, which its mainly Cockney artists knew so well from their own childhoods. Readers saw no incongruity in Laurel and Hardy acting out their adventures against a mean backdrop of terrace houses.

In its way, *Film Fun* was a mirror of social history, though some of its attitudes would hardly pass scrutiny today. Not surprisingly, the paper eschewed direct references to politics, religion, drink and sex.

Cordwell died in 1949 and by then the Golden Age of cinema was coming to a close. *Film Fun* carried on for another 13 years, but came increasingly to rely on comedians from radio and television. Laurel and Hardy gave way to Terry-Thomas, Harry Secombe and Tony Hancock. Sales slumped and the last issue, the 2,225th, came out in September 1962. The demise may have been inevitable but it is still deeply mourned.

Peter Waymark

*The Wonderful World of Film Fun, by Graham King and Ron Saxby, is published today (Monday) by Charles New Press at £16.95 hardback and £8.95 paperback.*

## Elton's slice of the song cake

Elton John, who on Friday won a High Court ruling giving him up to £5 million in lost songwriting royalties, had a publishing contract that was not particularly unusual.

Elton agreed to give Dick James Music all the songs he wrote for a fixed number of years. In return Dick James Music agreed to give him certain payments. The most contentious part of the contract was that it gave Dick James Music control of the songs for the entire period of their legal copyright - that is, until Elton's death, plus 50 years.

Many people in the record industry see music-publishers as left-overs from a time when publishing a song meant printing the sheet music. Nowadays, many songs are never printed at all. But music publishers still exist and they still acquire the copyrights to popular songs.

Every time music is heard on radio or TV or in a concert hall, whether live or recorded, a fee has to be paid to the owner of the copyright. If the song is recorded a percentage of the selling-price of each record sold also has to be paid to the owner of the copyright. Nearly every song that enters Britain's Top Seventy-Five is first assigned to a music-publisher and most of them keep between 30 and 50 per cent of the money they receive.

Back in the 1950s the accepted basis for payment between publisher and writer was fifty-fifty. The Top Ten became based on best-selling records, not sheet music, and it was no longer advisable for publishers to persuade more than one artist to record a song. If they did, record sales would be split between the two versions and this would result in a lower chart position for both. Henceforth just one artist was chosen to record each song.

By the 1960s record companies had become the dominant power in the industry. To

guarantee a continuing flow of hits they welcomed artists who could write their own songs. In the early 1970s album sales overtook singles, which meant far more songs were needed. From then on record companies only considered new artists if they were also songwriters. By then, of course, they mostly were.

Music publishers concentrated on "buying" writers by giving them advance payments, deductible from future royalties. In effect publishers became loan merchants, offering thousands of pounds in return for a 40 or 50 per cent split of the writers' future earnings.

The total earnings from a moderate-size world-wide hit single should be around £100,000. The publisher might take half of that. If an album followed with the same sort of world-wide sales it would earn around five times that figure.

There would also be considerable income from performance royalties and so, by investing £10,000 in a singer-songwriter at an early stage in

his career, a publisher might make half a million pounds from each album the artist records once he's achieved international success.

Publishers argue that they provide a valuable service by helping to finance young songwriters long before record companies would be prepared to commit themselves. But often songwriters don't realize that all the songs they write during the contract period will stay with the publisher when the contract comes to an end, and the publisher will continue to collect his percentage.

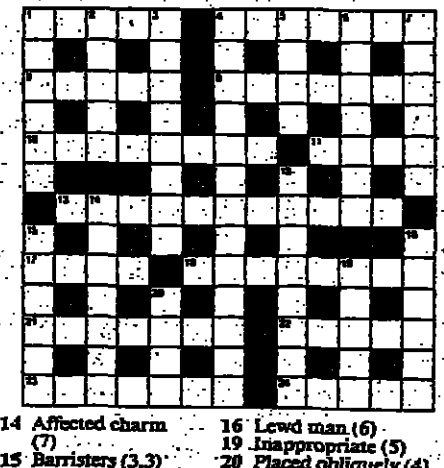
Sometimes it's only for three years, or maybe five, and that's not too bad. Even 10 years seems tolerable. Forever seems a touch too long.

The High Court ruled that Elton John was not entitled to the return of the copyright in his songs but, as his songwriting partner Bernie Taupin said after the case: "We have proved we were morally right."

Simon Napier-Bell  
 Manager of Wham!

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 21 Beef breast (7)  
 22 Under (5)  
 23 Rejuvenation (7)  
 24 Go in (5)  
 DOWN  
 1 Bay lynx (6)  
 2 Of them (5)  
 3 Make cheap (8)  
 4 Volatile (13)  
 5 Hazard (4)  
 6 Sincere (7)  
 7 Rudder lever (6)  
 12 Condom, openly (8)



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## MONDAY PAGE

# Child abuse: facing the unthinkable

Video is the latest weapon in the constant fight to stop the sexual abuse of children. A panel of child care experts watched a selection of the films now on the market. Caroline Moorehead reports

The jingle is catchy, one of those irritating snippets of music that is hard to forget. Accompanied by pictures of children swimming, skipping, cycling, see-sawing and hugging a dog, it opens one of the most popular in the current swarm of videos on child sexual abuse prevention. Rolf Harris's *Kids Can Say No*:

"My body's nobody's body but mine  
You run your own body and let me run mine..."

There are several videos currently on sale in Britain dealing with the question of sexual abuse, aimed at children between the ages of four and 16. They are intended to make children aware of what could happen to them, and give them sufficient confidence and understanding to tell someone if it does. The emphasis is on prevention, not cure.

All but one are imports from the United States, Canada or Australia. They range in length from about 14 minutes to 38 minutes and in price from under £10 to over £200. Most have reached the market within the past few months, at the same time as the headlines are telling us that up to one child in 10 is being sexually abused, either by a stranger or, more probably by a relation or friend. This abuse often begins with children as young as three, and as many as one in three of all girls reach the age of 18 with some experience of sexual abuse. How do you stop it happening?

Video is only one in a great range of new activities - from specially devised play sessions to seminars for doctors and social workers - being launched this winter to confront the problem. Michelle Elliott, a child psychologist who has just founded The Child Assault Prevention Programme after giving a school talk, is overwhelmed by requests to speak: in a year she has addressed 4,000 children and 8,000 adults. Six hundred schools are now on her waiting list. It gives some idea of the fever that has taken hold.

Videos are easily available and many people, anxious not to be left behind yet uncertain about how to deal with sexual abuse, may find it tempting to get hold of one.

We invited Dr Brendan McCarthy (a psychiatrist with long experience of dealing with incest and child sexual abuse), Dr Paula Drummond (a north London GP with a very high caseload of small children), Mrs Helen Kenward (a social worker in Northampton, mother of a nine-year-old girl and a 17-year-old boy) and Clare Rankin (a teacher of five to six-year-olds) to watch five of the more

serious productions and give their opinion.

For two of the panel, at least, sexual abuse in children is ever more central to their work. Dr McCarthy said that on the day the videos were viewed he had seen five new patients, each with a history of sexual abuse in childhood. Helen Kenward recently held a play session for 50 children under five, using dolls, on the subject. At the end four spoke of abuse from outsiders, though not strangers; one told of it coming from his own family.

Watching all the videos, certain strong feelings were immediately plain. All four critics preferred simple clear delivery, the minimum of gimmicks, the absence of whimsy.

But all were basically against the whole idea of using videos in the first place. In this tricky and highly emotional subject, one risked with taboos and open to countless misunderstandings and misinterpretations, they were felt quite simply to be too crude.

Helen Kenward was firm: she would not use one in any of her sessions with children, nor would she wish her nine-year-old daughter to see one. She preferred talk and play with dolls.

Dr McCarthy was also clear: the videos, he felt, were too simplistic. "Unless rape occurs, sexual contacts contain an enormous amount of tenderness and lead up. The child may not know what is unpleasant. It can be both satisfying and disquieting." He added that the more the videos seemed to put stress that strangers should be avoided, the more they made it seem all right for a child to go off with someone he knows.

Clare Rankin felt that the five-year-old children she teaches (five is the youngest age at which the videos are aimed) would not begin to understand anything they saw - and that applied to all the films. She said there was a real danger that the videos might be used without sufficient preparation by teachers too embarrassed to tackle the subject openly.

On this point all were agreed: unless they are seen in a carefully prepared context, with parents, teachers and even the local community aware of what is happening, ready to talk to the children and pick up any signs, then the videos could only mystify, possibly even harm the children.

To be fair, all the video companies make the same point. Several put out accompanying literature to say that the films should only be seen with continual pauses for discussion. Other parents, not part of our panel, said that children should also be supervised after the showing so that any fears can be forestalled.



Now I can tell you my secret. 15 minutes. Age 7 upwards. £110. Walt Disney Education Services.

Two linked videos (above) which are by far the most stylish in presentation, according to our panel. The children's film, *Now I can tell you my secret*, tells the story of a boy, lured into a young man's home by the promise of a present. He is bitterly ashamed



Kids can say no. 20 minutes. Age 5-11. £36. Skippon Video Associates.

The panel's favourite without question and the only English video, *Now I can tell you my secret*, is a group of children under a tree, discussing what is right and pleasant and what is wrong and unpleasant. It is important that the accents are English and familiar. "This one emphasizes a child's right to his own body", said Dr McCarthy.

But Clare Rankin said her five and six-year-olds would not have a clue what Rolf Harris was talking about. Helen Kenward said it would be better for professional workers than for children. But Harris had a particularly good manner with children, she said; awkward adults would do well to imitate it.



Feeling yes, feeling no. 35 minutes. Age 5-12 plus adults section. £160. Educational Media International.

*Feeling yes, feeling no* was little liked. Children are seen describing their "yes" feelings and "no" feelings with adults. After a scene in which one adult presenter brushes the hair of another, Dr McCarthy remarked that it could put people off hairdressers for life, while leaving them perfectly at ease about

Dr Drummond worried that there might be a danger that the scenes could provoke a young child into fantasizing, perhaps even paying off old scores on new step-parents. No, said Dr McCarthy: "Children in my experience don't do that. They just don't bring accusations of sexual abuse unless they are into puberty or they have been abused themselves."

In any case, none of these videos are at all explicit. Oxford Polytechnic, doctoring *Strong kids, safe kids*, cut out what they called a "penis song", saying that Mrs Whitehouse would never have put up with it. Dr McCarthy summed up the films: "They were no clearer to a child than the Gorbachov-Reagan talks", he said.

The fact that these videos are so recent is clearly a matter of commercial and practical necessity. How else would you get parents to give permission for their children to see them? It is important (you don't want to terrify the children), but it is equally one of their major weaknesses: why have them at all if children do not know what they are about? Michelle Elliott, for instance, does not use them.

On the whole the five videos viewed were seen as muddling, evasive and pussy-footed, best not for children at all, but as teaching aids for parents and professional workers to alert them to paedophilia and incest. And where children are shown them, it must only be in a setting which has been excellently prepared. Parents and teachers should have seen them beforehand and there should be lots of discussion.

my children to be educated for tomorrow's world.

We were happy with teaching at their rural primary school, but increasingly dismayed by the three local comprehensive schools. Homework was rarely set or marked, spelling and syntax were not corrected, absenteeism was tolerated and low achievement was considered the norm.

The result was an early disengagement between teacher and taught, replaced by boredom and frustration which was carried into adult life. My husband visited the staff room one break-time and found our children's teachers reading nothing more illuminating than *The Sun* and *The Mirror* in an atmosphere reminiscent of an old-time transport cafe.

Like other parents, we tried to help. But repeated stonewalling meant that our own children's period of education was fleeing fast. Reform and commitment was not what these schools wanted, much less the extra curricular or in-depth work that teachers in the private sector accept as part of their vocation.

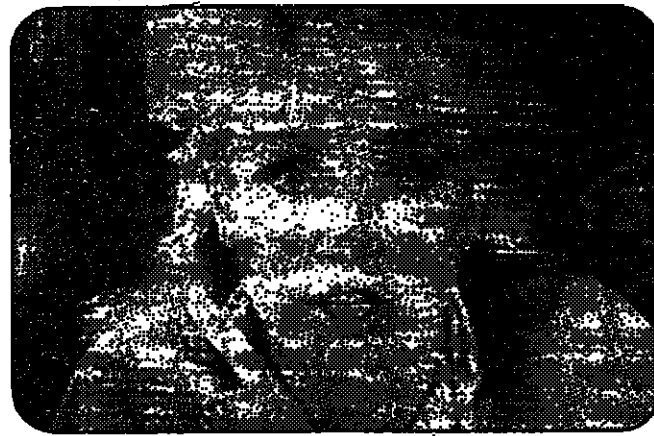
Our three children have between them received 20 years of state education, which deteriorated as they got older. By means of scholarships, assisted places, deeds of covenant, educational trusts and not least by refocusing our own priorities they now enjoy an education in the private sector that stretches them academically and teaches them an awareness of community service. They are happier and more confident in every way.

From Mrs Bridget Hadaway, Tregaron, Dyfed  
I too used to look to state schools as the natural place for



Child Molestation - breaking the silence. 20 minutes. Adults. £115. Walt Disney Education Services.

of what then takes place and is unable to talk of it with his parents. Given that it comes with *Child Molestation - breaking the silence*, a film for adults, this was voted the best teaching pack.



Strong kids, safe kids. 38 minutes. Age 4-12. £9.99 CIC Video.

Originally produced in Hollywood but adapted for Oxford Polytechnic's Television Research Unit for an English market with Sarah Greene of TV's *Saturday Superstore* talking to a class of English children. It is long, cheap and popular.

The Hollywood producer is said to have shown it to a neighbour and found it led to a revelation of sexual assault. He was so moved that he decided to produce the videos in this country without making a profit. Our panel considered it a bit of a mess. There are songs, jingles, Smurfs and a cast of avuncular characters mending motorcycles or playing the guitar. Too confusing, too much chatter.



No more secrets. 13 minutes. Age 8-13. £75. Educational Media International.

going to bed with their fathers. The film was weak and evasive, the panel agreed. The company puts out four other videos. The other we viewed, *No more secrets*, made good use of cartoons but was very complicated for anything but a very articulate child. The five sell from £75 to £150.

## Come back domestic bliss, all is forgiven

The dual career family is a problem of our time. Who would have dreamt, even a generation ago, that ambitious young men would refuse to join the Foreign Office because frequent postings abroad would hamper their wives' promotion prospects; or that companies dedicated to moving their male executives around the country would have to offer the ladies a not only of free conveyancing and removal services but a guarantee that they would do everything in their power to find a job for their executives' spouses?

Yet it is not only disruption imposed by employers that is causing the dual career family's shoulders to droop with weariness and resignation; it is also a feeling that "to have it all" is an impossible dream. As Betty Friedman, the earth-mother of the feminist movement, wrote recently in *The New York Times Magazine*: "The guilts of less-than-perfect motherhood and less-than-perfect professional career performance are real because it's not possible to 'have it all' when jobs are still structured for men whose wives take care of the details of life and homes are still structured for women whose only responsibility is running their families."

Ms Friedman's solution would be for troubled working wives to get back into the women's movement - an unrealistic goal, I feel, for how can a woman with a job and a family find the time to attend meetings or go on marches?

But I sense that women are finding another solution. I can't produce any back-up figures but I am aware that every time I meet a professionally successful young woman, we haven't been talking for five minutes before she tells me that she's thinking of jacking it in.

The reasons are valid enough. A nightmare troupe of nannies have fed the baby on packet soups and fizzy drinks before decamping without warning on a Sunday night; the washing-machine is leaking and no one will come to fix it outside the hours of 9 till 5, Monday to Friday. And apart from all that there is the tiredness, the terrible fatigue of a woman who, coming home in the evening with a too-heavy bag of groceries, knows that there is dinner to cook, children to attend to and papers to read for tomorrow's planning meeting before she can go to bed.

This is not what "having it all" was meant to be about. The idea was that you set off for work as frisky as a puppy, head buzzing with ideas to increase turnover, improve staff relations, knock the opposition out cold and, as you walked along, swinging your briefcase,



PENNY PERRICK

you pitied all those non-working wives and mothers with nothing to look forward to but another Valium, another trip to Tesco, another coffee morning. Working wives don't think like that any more. What they think is that it would be perfect heaven to be able to take the time off to go to their daughter's school's second-hand uniform sale.

The problem is, of course, that dual career set-ups happen to the wrong people. Ambitious young male professionals tend to meet and marry ambitious young female professionals, which is fine as far as rapport is concerned but means that there is no one around with enough time to take a suit to the dry cleaner's.

These are the very families who could manage perfectly well on one salary (his) give or take a holiday or two in the Bahamas and a new conservatory. Yet they are the ones who, until recently, have felt it a matter of honour that both partners stay in paid employment.

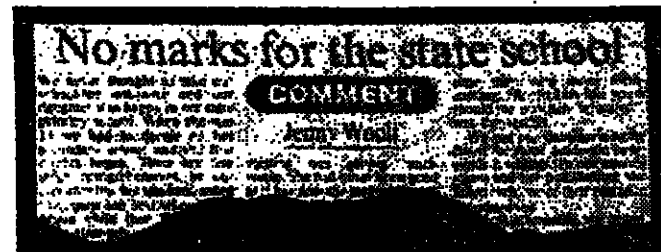
Logically, the most ardent female job-seekers should be those whose husbands' livelihoods are at risk. But research abounds to prove that the wives of unemployed men prefer to be unemployed themselves and even give up jobs when their husbands lose theirs.

This situation has a perverse logic of its own. For while the dual-career household has its problems, they are trifling compared to those of the single-career one. I can imagine nothing more irksome for a woman than to come home after a day's work to find her husband having a drink in front of the television. Her feelings are no doubt what generations of husbands with stay-at-home wives have been feeling for years. I think it would be a good thing if, before resigning from their jobs, "have it all" wives gave a passing thought to how their partners might feel at adopting the brand-new role of sole breadwinner.

## Schools: we don't deserve a bad report

### TALKBACK

Don't tar us all with the the same brush, say headmasters in reply to a mother's attack on standards in the comprehensive sector



bright children. It is rather like using the dozens of private schools without a qualified teacher on their books to damn the majority of fee-paying schools.

I agree that comprehensive schools should be able to cater for the full ability range; if they can't they are not doing their job. And there is nothing wrong with mixed ability teaching in theory, but very few schools have enough teachers - at secondary level - with the superhuman energy, imagination, patience and special skills required. Most of us accept this and organize our schools in such a way that the most able pupils receive appropriate stimulus in terms of quantity and level of work, whilst at the same time ensuring specialist teaching in small groups for those with serious learning difficulties.

From Mr T. Renowden, Headmaster, Penrice School, St Austell, Cornwall

As you printed an article about one parent who has transferred a pupil from the maintained sector to the independent (No marks for the state school, November 22), perhaps you would print a letter from the head of a comprehensive where the opposite occurs.

Naturally mine is not the only comprehensive to benefit in this way when results appear in the local press. This year three of my pupils obtained 13 O levels and Grade 1 in CSE Drama, a further six obtained 12 O levels plus CSE Grade 1, and one obtained 12 A's at O level plus CSE Grade 1. The top 10 obtained 132 O level equivalents. A few years ago the only two girls at Oxford to get first class honours in mathematics were ex-pupils; and I could go on.

Surely the truth behind the article is that bright children are not fully extended in a mixed ability group in any kind of secondary school. To teach borderline subnormal pupils with those of a high IQ is fair to neither.

From Mr M. Howseman, Headmaster, Fleetwood Hesketh High School, Fleetwood, Lancashire

I am in no position to dispute the facts concerning Jenny Woolf's daughter's sad experience of comprehensive education, but I am most anxious when she argues from the particular to the general and, in effect, writes off state schools as unsuitable environments for

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# THE TIMES DIARY

## All, all, all welcome

Stung, perhaps, by criticism of its decision to invite ANC leader Oliver Tambo to address in late month, the Commons foreign affairs select committee has suddenly gone berserk with invitations to leading South African figures. It has written, I can reveal, to the president, P. W. Botha, the foreign minister, R. F. "Pik" Botha, the far-right Conservative leader, Andrew Treurnicht, and to the leaders of all South Africa's political parties - Coloured, white and Indian - saying that it would be glad to hear evidence in London from them or their representatives. The same invitation has been extended to all South Africa's church organisations, to heads of the "independent" and non-independent homeland governments, and to both legal and illegal black organisations. Mrs Thatcher will doubtless keep a wary eye on proceedings. She could do without the Tory-dominated committee calling for disinvestment in South Africa or for tougher sanctions.

## Making friends

More tact and diplomacy from Jeffrey Archer. Interviewed for a male supplement to the latest *Cosmopolitan*, the new deputy chairman of the Conservative Party, speaking about the need for Britain to compete, says: "The bloody Japanese are out there and they'll cheat at anything, and the Americans who think they're better than we are, if we crawl around saying, 'We really don't want to be the Japanese - lovely little people' or 'the Germans, we now friends with them...' Balls! I want to beat them all." The Foreign Office will be delighted.

## Ill Metz

Archer may, of course, be right about the French. Because Luxembourg airport had been closed by bad weather, Sir Geoffrey Howe, flying out in an RAF plane on Saturday to prepare for today's EEC summit, was diverted not to nearby Metz, which the French said was also closed, but to much more distant Bonn, whence he finally arrived "tired and frazzled" after a tortuous journey. A French plot? Every other national delegation was told Metz was open and duly landed there.

## Labour of love

The *Morning Star's* labour correspondent, Mick Costello, has warned to the Conservative trade unionists. Not only did they send him a press pass for their weekend conference at Blackpool but also a ballot paper for the election of officials. Costello, a former national industrial organizer for the Communist party, was threatening to make full use of it.

BARRY FANTONI



## Flush of success

Another advance for women in that male bastion, the House of Commons. A men's lavatory, I learn, is to be converted into a women's hairdressers. Labour MP Ann Clwyd has campaigned for such a facility for 18 months - ever since being outraged to discover that, if she wanted her hair done on-site, she was expected to use a short-back-and-sides barber frequented by the likes of Lord Hailsham, John Silkin, chairman of the Commons services committee, has just informed her that a commercial firm will come in for two half-days a week as an experiment. Mrs Clwyd now intends to fight for a shop where busy women MPs can buy anything from "milk to nylons" - and also for a women's toilet in the Lobby. "If we get caught short, there's nowhere for us to go," she complains.

## Dire tidings

Gerry Healy's expulsion from the Workers Revolutionary Party has had an unexpected corollary. Red Ted Knight's *Labour Herald*, previously a substantial, full-colour, advert-free paper costing a mere 25p despite limited circulation, failed to appear last week and appears this week several pages thinner, devoid of colour, and subsidized by ads from sympathetic left-wing councils. Why the decline? Because the *Herald's* printers, the WRP-run Astmore Litho, have fallen out with Knight, who is a long-standing associate of Healy. Knight has switched to the Probook press, which is also printing Healy's unofficial *Newline*, but Probook clearly are not offering him the "very good tone" that Astmore did. Will the *Herald* survive, I wonder? PHS

# The Labour way to liberty

Bryan Gould rejects the view that personal freedom must be circumscribed in the cause of social justice

Political commentators, preoccupied as they are with day-to-day matters, may have missed a development of rather more long-term interest in British politics. After 10 years of right-wing radicalism, the left is beginning to fight back - and on ground of its own choosing.

Mrs Thatcher, whatever her other failures, has scored one notable success during her term as Tory leader: she has wrenched the political debate as a whole firmly to the right. Intellectual fashion moved with her; the left suddenly found itself denied that easy assumption of intellectual and moral superiority which had largely obscured the Labour Party's traditional lack of interest in ideas.

The Labour Party was ill-equipped to meet this new challenge. Economic decline seemed to falsify the Croslandite thesis that socialism would develop automatically as one of the fruits of affluence. The party found itself thrown back on the outworn and alien doctrines of Marx and Trotsky to help stock its bare ideological cupboard - a dependence which, by alienating it from the wider electoral support it needed, simply served to increase its problems.

In addition, the party faced a vigorous attempt from the centre to supplant it, both politically and ideologically, as the natural alternative to Conservatism. The new social contract theories of such people as John Rawls, which might have been welcome to a more intellectually alert Labour Party, were instead seized upon with

alacrity (albeit half-digested) by Dr David Owen. The Labour Party, however, is at last alive to the danger. Much of what is happening in the party, while of course important in terms of its immediate political impact, is best explained in the context of Labour's recognition of the need for, and greater confidence in, reaching a new vision of what socialism could mean in modern Britain.

The party is turning its back on the class-based, quasi-revolutionary policies which place such emphasis on doctrinal purity and party elitism and pays so little attention to the needs and wishes of Labour voters. It is now consciously seeking to give the party back to its supporters, not just because electoral necessity so dictates, but because we see broad-based popular support as an essential component of our socialism: in modern Britain, a socialism which does not attract wide popular support on its own merits cannot be socialism.

It is in this context that Neil Kinnock's determined repudiation of Militant's "vanguardism", Roy Hattersley's interest in ideas like worker-shareholding, and the party's new housing policy should be seen. They are all part of a much wider philosophical shift which is moving the Labour Party to a new - and in

many ways much more radical - position in British politics. We now need a philosophical underpinning for this welcome development. The attempt is best made by confronting the issue on which the opponents of socialism are apparently on their strongest ground - the supposed incompatibility between socialism and individual liberty.

It has been traditional for the left to concede that there is necessarily a trade-off between individual freedom and the socialist concern for equality and justice. I refuse to make this treacherous concession. Not only is socialism compatible with individual freedom, but it positively requires and is the only guarantor of the highest possible degree of freedom for everyone in society. Only the socialist, in other words, is truly concerned with liberty.

Many of the assumptions usually made in this context are wrong - particularly the view that whereas liberty is restricted by deliberate human action such as locking people up or denying freedom of speech, it is not affected by the way society distributes social and economic power. Social and economic inequalities cannot be set on one side in this way; they are the consequence of man-made, and therefore avoidable, social arrangements, and are accordingly ex-

remely important to the question of how much freedom each individual enjoys.

In his celebrated theory about the conditions on which rational people would enter society, John Rawls argued that people would insist on an equal distribution of freedom, but would be prepared to tolerate, in certain conditions, unlimited inequality in social and economic benefits. If freedom is directly affected by inequality, this theory would have to be changed.

But if the concepts of freedom and social and economic equality are inseparable, then it would be impossible for people to make the distinction which Rawls suggests. Instead, the rational person entering society would insist that social and economic power, as major determinants of individual freedom, must be distributed as equally as possible - and that rational person would be, in my contention, a socialist.

All societies, if left unchecked, have a natural tendency towards the concentration of power in fewer and fewer hands. Only the socialist responds to this by a deliberate and systematic attempt, not just to palliate the effects of inequality but to inhibit and counteract them. This is the central tenet and characteristic of socialist thought. Only the socialist recognizes inequality as the enemy of freedom and is therefore truly concerned with the maximum degree of freedom for all.

The author is Labour MP for Dagenham. His *Socialism and Freedom* has just been published by Macmillan.

Diana Geddes reports on the anti-immigrant wave across the Channel

# Chauvinism with a shove

Paris "Aimez-la ou quittez-la" (Love it or leave it) said the slogan on the National Front badge, fashioned in the shape of France. "Les Français d'abord!" (The French first!), another proclaimed. Although opinion polls suggest that the National Front will get only 8 or 9 per cent of the vote in the general election next March, support for its overtly racist views is now widespread. Immigration will clearly be one of the central campaign themes.

One of the most striking differences between French and British attitudes to immigrants in their respective countries is that the French admit much more openly that they are racist. They maintain that they are being less hypocritical than the British, which is probably true; but it also means there is much less moral and social opprobrium attached to racism in France than in Britain, which in turn means less is done to fight it.

A poll published in *Paris Match* earlier this month provided an insight into French attitudes: 71 per cent of French people consider the French to be racist, but a similar proportion feel that the immigrants are equally racist toward the French; 65 per cent believe that immigrants are an important factor in crime in France, and 82 per cent are in favour of expelling those sentenced to prison; almost half are in favour of expelling immigrants who lose their job; nearly half consider that every foreigner in a job is depriving a Frenchman of work; and two-thirds feel that France may lose its identity if "nothing is done" to limit the number of foreigners coming in.

In the face of views as prevalent as these, the main political parties sometimes seem to be vying with one another as to who can put forward the toughest policies on immigration. The Gaullist RPR, for example, is proposing not merely to close the frontiers to all new immigrants but also to "send home" (with a small financial inducement) immigrants who lose their jobs; to stop the payment of supplementary benefits to immigrant families; to reintroduce on-the-spot police identity checks of immigrants; and to end the system whereby a second-generation immigrant born in France has an automatic right to French citizenship at the age of 17.

In a recent television debate with Jacques Chirac, leader of the RPR, the prime minister, Laurent Fabius, appalled many Socialists by suggesting that he and Chirac held roughly the same views on immigration. He recounted, with pride, how the government had expelled 12,000 illegal immigrants and turned back a further 40,000 from France's frontiers last year; this year, he went on, it had induced some 45,000 immigrants to leave France by offering them generous repatriation grants (of up to £9,000).

What had become of the Socialist policies of compassion and tolerance



toward immigrants, many wondered. Fabius tried to make amends during a parliamentary debate a few days later by speaking in high-flown phrases about how "the French constitution declares that all men are born free and equal under the law. The greatness of France through the ages has been built in part on the diversity of its inhabitants, the mixing of their opinions and the blending of their cultures. Immigrants have created, and still create, an important part of the richness of France." But by that time it all sounded unconvincing.

President Mitterrand tried to ameliorate the impression left by Fabius by adopting, at a recent press conference, what was evidently supposed to be a more generous, caring attitude toward the immigrants. They had been invited to France in the 1960s and early 1970s when France needed cheap labour, he said, and should now be made to feel at home. It was noticeable, however, that he reserved that welcome for "those who have a contract of work and who have become integrated into the French way of life".

The Socialists, in fact, have done a lot to ease the life of the immigrants in France since they came to power five years ago, giving them the same rights as French workers in regard to pay, holidays, health care, social security benefits, and representation on work councils; allowing them to marry without having to seek special permission from the government; permitting them to set up legal associations of their own; making it easier to renew their permits to stay in France; stopping arbitrary expulsions; and improving housing conditions. Yet neither Mitterrand nor Fabius

mentioned any of that in their recent comments on immigration - perhaps because they knew that it would not go down well with an increasingly intolerant electorate.

Indicative of the recent change in climate was a cover story run by *Figaro* magazine last month showing Marianne, the symbol of France, veiled in a Muslim chador. Under the title "Will we still be French in 30 years' time?" the magazine purported to show that the proportion of non-European immigrants (90 per cent of whom were of Muslim culture and religion, it said) could rise from 5 per cent of the total population to 17 per cent by the year 2015. By that time, non-Europeans would account for more than a third of all births.

The government denounced the article as Nazi-style propaganda. The figures, it said, were based on the erroneous assumption that the white French birth rate would fall from 1.72 per inhabitant to 1.25, whereas in fact it had remained virtually stable for the past decade; and while the magazine had assumed that the non-white birth rate would remain constant at 4.7, it had in fact fallen dramatically over the past decade, and the fall could be expected to continue.

For some time, however, many ordinary French people have begun to feel that their country is being

taken over by foreigners. Their brand of racism is inextricably bound up with a typically fierce French nationalism.

"Yes, I am a racist and I don't feel ashamed of it," a Parisian friend, usually a gentle and generous person, told me the other day.

"I'm frightened that the immigrants will take France away from us. There are already parts of Paris where I no longer feel at home."

There are 4 million immigrants in France, one-third of them North African Arabs, representing about 7 per cent of the population. Contrary to popular belief, their numbers have not grown significantly over the past decade, following the ban imposed on the entry of new permanent immigrant workers in 1974. But the economic crisis has drawn attention to them and has helped turn them into a convenient scapegoat for French people's fears of unemployment and rising crime.

Many now feel that the tolerance threshold has been passed and that a policy of net emigration should be introduced. Alain Peyrefitte, former Interior Minister under President Giscard d'Estaing, said earlier this month that "to protect the immigrants from fascism" it would be necessary to expel sufficient numbers in order to achieve a net emigration of between 40,000 and 100,000 a year.

So far, France has escaped the kind of racial violence seen in places such as Tosteth and Brixton, despite similar conditions of social deprivation and high unemployment. However, many people fear there could be an explosion if the right came to power in March, as expected, and introduced their anti-immigrant policies.

A leg of pork without the crackling is surely unimaginable. So lamb shanks are a staple of the traditional butcher, ultra-lean meat is impossible to cut and tastes like sawdust.

Part of the lamentable deterioration in the quality of our beef can be attributed to the fact that much of it comes from the male calves of Friesian and Holstein dairy cattle, treated with hormones to achieve faster growth and fed on grain instead of grass. Continental butchers, such as Charolais and Limousin, have found favour with breeders because they are said to produce leaner offspring.

But the public may not be quite so easily fooled. A Staffordshire farmer, writing in last week's *Farmers Weekly*, says that against all advice he has remained consistently loyal to the two great British beef breeds, Hereford and Aberdeen Angus. This year sales in his farm shop are up by 15 per cent.

John Young  
Agricultural Correspondent

Anne Sofer

# Why no stick for truant teachers?

On Friday, November 22, 50 schools in inner London were closed or partly closed because of a teachers' strike. Hardly news, you might think, but this strike was different. It was not about pay, cuts, conditions or anything else the government has or has not done; it was against that model socialist education authority.

There had been a march, leaflets, banners and a picket. "So what was it all about?" I asked some excited sixth formers. It was a good cause, I was told; there was this head who was a real fascist, man, and all the teachers were saying the IEA was doing nothing to fight racism.

"What?" I thought incredulously, and felt fleetingly an untypical twinge of sympathy for the present administration. All those millions of pounds spent on anti-racist initiatives, all those thousands of words printed on glossy paper, and they end up with a reputation like this?

Then came a phone call from a friend, another part of London whose nine-year-old daughter was off school. Her teacher could not teach that day because "he had to go and make sure poor Asian boys weren't attacked with razors".

The story, as far as I can piece it together, is as follows. Several weeks ago an Asian boy at a school in East London had been attacked by four other pupils, who were expelled. Yet in all the schools around, and rapidly spreading well beyond the area, the rumour was assiduously nurtured that "nothing was being done". The staff of the school in question, who have already seen off one head, and are doing their best to repeat this achievement, made flying visits to all the staffrooms they could reach during the lunch hour. This is racism at work, comrades, they said. Join the struggle.

As a result, a mainly white picket was mounted outside the IEA divisional office in Tower Hamlets and shouted abuse against, among others, the local divisional inspector, who happens to be black. The policeman on duty, getting nervous, called for reinforcements. Some of the demonstrators were arrested and charged with obstruction. The subsequent hearing, on November 22, occasioned the walk-out.

The IEA doesn't seem to know how many teachers went on strike or how many pupils missed lessons. Industrial action has become such a way of life that it often goes unreported. There is supposed to be a sharp distinction between "official" industrial action, nationally sanctioned and understood by the employers, and "unofficial" industrial action which can lead to disciplinary action both by the national union and the employers.

But both the IEA and the NUT have given up trying to discipline teachers for wilful action. Heads go through the motions of reporting their absence, but know that nothing will happen. Some teachers are clocking up five, six and more offences - marching for the miners, against "the cuts", shouting from the gallery of County Hall - while disciplinary procedures remain "frozen" and "under review".

moreover... Miles Kington

# London's hidden smallest tomb

Among the odder criticisms levelled at the English by the French - and among the most detailed - was Alphonse Allais's complaint in about 1895 that there were not enough public lavatories in London, especially not in the Tottenham Court Road. He was absolutely right, as I found out when I arrived in London in 1963, but someone had made amends by installing one in Cambridge Circus, about 200 yards away. It was right in the middle of Cambridge Circus, so that to get to it you had to brave the traffic, no matter where you were coming from. Risk your life to spend a penny.

The entrance was surrounded by ornamental railings, and you went down into a cool underworld of white tiles and varnished wood. It was neither very grand nor very squalid; just a good, ordinary, somewhat old-fashioned gent's lavatory which might have got two stars in an AA Guide. "Open all year round. Nice respectable establishment convenient for West End. Sorry, no ladies." It was situated halfway between my two favourite spots in London, Soho and Doherty's Jazz Record Shop, so I got to know it well, though I don't think I ever spoke to the proprietor, an elderly man who shuffled round with buckets and brooms and never spoke to anyone either.

It was actually in those basement premises that I had a good idea for a short story. I imagined a public relations or advertising man coming out of a good lunch about 3pm and going down these stairs, feeling slightly drunk and very cheerful. Full of expansive bonhomie, he would say to the proprietor: "What you need is a good PR man."

"Eh?" I heard the proprietor saying. "That's right. A bit of PR. Am I right in saying that this loo belongs to Westminster City Council? I am. Well, mark my words, they're going to be closing down public lavatories in the not too distant future, yet another economy measure, and do you know which ones they'll be closing down?"

"No." "The ones that are least used, that's which. If you want to keep your job, you want to attract more customers. Get your loo talked about. Bring in the public till your lavatory is so popular they wouldn't dare close it down."

At first the idea of trying to attract more trade, so alien to the average

The serious and, on the whole well disciplined national industrial action over pay is masking the chaos seething under the surface in London. Parents are probably not aware that there are two sorts of action and assume they are unlucky in constantly drawing the short straw. In many secondary schools NUT members propose to stage the official half-day strike so that one fifth go out every day, leaving the school inoperable for the whole week, while no teacher loses more than half a day's pay. "Is that sanctioned by national headquarters?" I asked the head of one school where this was happening. He shrugged and laughed, bitterly.

There is no doubt that extremist groups are at work, notably the Socialist Workers Party. The SWP group at the North London Poly was out in force outside one of my local schools on November 22, handing leaflets to children and urging them to join the strike. A bus was waiting to take them to the picket line, the pickets said.

I have complained about the proselytising activities of this particular cell before: last summer I wrote to the leader of the IEA asking what action she proposed to take. Several months later I received a terse reply from one of her colleagues: none.

This, fortunately, is not the picture at every school or even most schools. The majority of teachers are still dedicated, committed and shamefully underpaid, demoralized as never before, but pressing on doggedly with their work because they believe in it. But the militant minority grows and grows, not least because these are the tactics that have proved successful. On one issue after another the IEA has given in.

But there is a conspiracy of silence. Many of those most horrified are those most loyal to the IEA - not necessarily to its present leadership but to its corporate identity and traditions and its reputation for progressive and enlightened generosity. Such people fear that speaking out will present an opportunity to the forces of darkness (represented by the *Daily Mail*, the *Express*, Government and the Black Paper brigade) to destroy it utterly.

But meanwhile the internal forces of destruction gather strength. Over the next few weeks, Labour members seeking reelection for the new IEA elections next May will be submitting themselves to a drearily familiar Trotskyist catchism. Yes, I will vote for a deficit budget like Liverpool's. Yes, I do support - unconditionally - "workers in struggle". Yes I will go to prison rather than redeploy a single teacher.

Yes, comrades. I pledge myself - even if it means every school in London closing its doors indefinitely - to march in step with you under your glorious revolutionary banners.

Neil Kinnock thinks he has trouble with Liverpool in 1985. Wait for London in 1986.

The author is SDP member of the GLC/IEA for St Pancras North.

# Mrs Sprat, the people are with you

In more innocent and less acrimonious times the roast beef of old England was a source of pride. "As British as roast beef" was a description of something to be admired.

Alas, no longer! The animals that will parade round the show ring at the Royal Smithfield Show at Earls Court this week may be their owners' and breeders' pride and joy, but for others they are objects of compassion or a danger to health. The compassion is perhaps understandable, bearing in mind that they will shortly be in the butcher's shop. Even for those of us who have no intention of changing our eating habits, the vegetarians demonstrating on the pavement outside the show provide a slightly uncomfortable reminder that the slaughterhouse is something we would rather not think about.

But the health aspect is something altogether different. It seems that those who have despaired of weaning us away from meat on ethical grounds are now trying to persuade us that it is bad for us. Statistics suggest that we are eating less red meat - beef, veal,

mutton, lamb and pork - than did our parents and grandparents. Consumption in the home last year was about 13 ounces a head per week, slightly less than during the war when rationing was in force.

This figure could be misleading. During the 1940s people did not eat out very much and restaurant menus featured spam or whalemeat. Nowadays it appears that more than half the meat we eat is consumed outside the home, in restaurants, pubs, canteens and cafes, or bought from takeaways.

According to the Meat and Livestock Commission, the average consumption of red meat this year will be about 10½lb - equivalent to 2½lb a week. That consists of 42.5lb of beef and veal (15oz a week), 15.5lb of mutton and lamb (4.7oz), 28lb of pork (8.5oz) and 13lb of bacon and ham (5.7oz).

Not only that, but we are eating slightly more of everything than we

did last year and, according to the Smithfield Show organizers, more than at any time in the last 10 years. The long decline seems to have come, temporarily at least, to an end.

That may seem to be a setback for the vegetarians, but the meat trade is far from exultant. For its contention that meat is not only nutritious but good value for money, much cheaper in real terms than a generation ago, cuts little ice with those who claim that animal fats are dangerous to health.

Its reaction has been to urge farmers, wholesalers and butchers to concentrate on producing leaner cuts. The use of the term fatstock is now officially discouraged.

The trouble with that is that lean meat simply does not taste as good. All the dietary warnings in the world cannot compensate for the fact that a round of topside, foil-wrapped and sold in a supermarket, with all the fat carefully removed, bears about as much relation to a traditional rib roast bought from the butcher's as a bottle of cheap Transylvanian wine to a vintage claret.

## Correction

A photograph on this page on November 6 showed not the Louvre Mona Lisa but a reproduction.





P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

## THE UNIONISTS' CHOICE

The Anglo-Irish agreement, ratified last week by the House of Commons, marks the start of a long haul. A timetable is taking shape which means that a year from now the Cabinet may still be facing widespread civil disobedience from many of Northern Ireland's one million Protestant unionists.

The government therefore needs to prepare, psychologically as well as physically, for a siege. If support emerges where it counts - inside Northern Ireland itself - it can only do so by slow degrees. The Hillsborough document cannot achieve anything by its existence alone. Only repeated evidence of the government's good intentions towards the people of Northern Ireland will stand any chance of eroding the mistrust voiced by Unionist MPs in the Commons last week. Only time and effort will test how far those voices are, and remain, truly representative.

It now seems certain that by early March next year, the bulk of the 15 Unionist MPs will be returned to Parliament. Elected and appointed Unionists will complete their withdrawal from public bodies in Northern Ireland and the boycott may be extended to rates and rents. Unionist rhetoric has so far been remarkably free of the familiar signals that, if all else fails, intimidation and violence will replace civil disobedience.

Mrs Thatcher's government, at both political and official level, has two advantages denied to the Labour government of 1974 which inherited the Sunningdale power-sharing experi-

ment. It has accumulated vastly greater experience in all aspects of governing the province and it has an unassailable parliamentary strength. But these can only help if the agreement itself is providing some evidence of reconciliation within Northern Ireland. Unionist politicians are clearly not going to provide it. Mr John Hume and the Social Democratic and Labour Party should - in two ways.

The credentials of the Hillsborough agreement depend on constitutional nationalists establishing that the inter-governmental conference is not a Trojan horse for stealthy reunification. The quality of the SDLP's backing for effective counter-terrorism is the best test. The party should move from abstract indictments of violence to practical steps which assist day-to-day protection against murder and injury. There are places open on the Police Authority, waiting to be taken up. There have been few prominent SDLP politicians at the funerals of murdered Roman Catholic policemen in the past.

Similarly, on devolved government Mr Hume and his party need to move from the general to the particular. Last Tuesday, Mr Hume said that he was ready to "sit down and determine how we shall administer the affairs of Northern Ireland." This offer should be made good even in the face of likely Unionist boycott. If members of the latter community can ever persuade themselves to take part in internal government in partnership with nationalists, it

is important that those nationalists are able to show that they see more pressing concerns than ultimate reunification. The best proof would be detailed and realistic proposals, for working devolved government together offered within months.

The SDLP is therefore the best sales force the Hillsborough agreement could have. The government's authority, already questioned in principle, will also need to be reinforced by ministers who need to keep not only their nerve but also their interest in the issue intact. There could be no better advocate in support of Mr Tom King than Mr Norman Tebbit if he could visit the province in safety. At times of intercommunal tension the government's role as referee is of heightened importance. If disturbances arise, the discipline of the Royal Ulster Constabulary (impressively displayed during Orange marches this summer) and the Ulster Defence Regiment will be of paramount importance.

The logic of this Conservative government's defence of Hillsborough leads Unionists in the direction of an unpleasant choice. They are in a minority in the United Kingdom, while forming a majority in the province. That majority guarantees the constitutional allegiance of their own choosing, but does not extend further. If the parties to the agreement can fulfil its good intentions, Unionists will have to decide between living in the United Kingdom and accepting the decisions of its government, or renouncing their historic allegiance to the union.

## MR MUGABE GOES TO MOSCOW

Despite American pressure to resolve regional conflicts, as expressed by President Reagan at the Summit and elsewhere, we are unlikely to see an early end to Soviet involvement in South Africa. As the West's most important source of gold and a number of strategic minerals, as well as a vital statistic in the trade balances of countries like Britain, the Cape remains a glittering prize for those who plan Soviet foreign policy.

The African National Congress (ANC), though an indigenous organization, continues to be amply supplied with arms and funds from Moscow, - and sends its young men there for training. Its links with the pro-Soviet Communist party, also banned by Pretoria, remains close.

Now the visit to Moscow by Mr Robert Mugabe, Zimbabwe's prime minister, - his first since coming to power five years ago - give rise to fears that the Russians are about to forge stronger links with the front-line states to bring down the South African government. Are such fears justified? The answer is, in the short-term, probably not.

Mugabe is said not to need any arms - and is certainly unlikely to be offered very much else. His mission, shortly before he becomes chairman of the non-aligned movement next year, must be not so much to build new fences as to mend old ones - damaged during the bush war in Rhodesia by Moscow's persistent support for his main political opponent Mr Joshua Nkomo. In the long-term, however,

there are obvious advantages for the Soviet Union in extending its influence throughout Southern Africa as the champion of the black majority against the forces of white repression in Pretoria. The indications are that Russian policy is directed not towards the rapid overthrow of the Pretoria government but rather to a long period of destabilization for the country leading only eventually - if possible - to the establishment of a government dominated by Moscow.

This is prompted by a number of considerations which sometimes seem to have been better understood by the Soviets than by many Western powers. For one thing it is very doubtful if the Russians think a swift change of regime in Pretoria very likely. This is partly the result of an assessment of the relative strengths of those involved and partly the fruit of Soviet experience in Africa.

In Angola for instance the Soviets are still pouring arms and equipment into the Marxist government's struggle against the rebel army of Unita. Mig-23 fighters, helicopter gunships and rocket launchers are among the supplies flown in since Mr Gorbachov came to power, in an attempt to resolve the struggle. But Unita carries on.

In the second place the Soviets have come to appreciate that Third World allies can be relied upon only when they remain totally dependent upon Moscow for military assistance. Outright victory, attained only at great cost and after a long struggle,

leads to independence - and a search for the kind of economic aid which the fledgling governments know only too well they can obtain much more easily in the West.

There is a growing list of countries led by Egypt in which the Russians have had their fingers burned. Even in Mozambique, the jewel in the Marxist crown, Samora Machel has shown himself to be extremely pragmatic, and a photograph which appeared at the time of the accord between Mozambique and Pretoria, which showed Machel and P. W. Botha shaking hands and smiling, has never been wholly forgotten in Moscow.

The Soviets can see commercial and political advantages arising out of the destabilization of South Africa. Commercially it would increase the market for Soviet minerals if the Western source of supply were cut off or reduced. Politically the introduction of a sympathetic Marxist regime in Pretoria would have obvious benefits in what remains an important strategic part of the world. But the Russians are in no hurry.

The people of Southern Africa whose prosperity, even survival, depend upon stability should be aware of this. So should the Commonwealth delegation which visits South Africa next year in an attempt to accelerate the pace of peaceful change. So too should Mr Mugabe because the well-being of the whole region rests upon peace and stability in the Cape.

## TIME FOR ACTION ON TIN

The International Tin Council will start an emergency meeting in London today which is scheduled to continue until a solution is found to the month-long tin crisis. The origin of that crisis was the failure of the ITC's buffer stock manager to meet his commitments, having bought tin heavily on borrowed money in a vain attempt to keep the price within the unrealistic limits agreed by member countries of the ITC in 1982.

The first vital step towards any solution, therefore, is for the twenty-two producing and consuming states that make up the council to accept publicly their clear commitment to meet the losses and stand behind the council's dealings.

This should scarcely need saying. That it has yet to be fully accepted is the prime cause of the delay in reaching a solution - with all the damage that has done to the finances of the tin market, to the liquidity of other metal markets centred on the London Metal Exchange and to the prospects of miners and tin

producers from Kuala Lumpur to Cornwall.

Britain, as host to the market as well as being both consumer and producer, pledged early that it would meet its share of the ITC's commitments. Malaysia, the leading producer, has been active in seeking general support.

Some others have been noticeably recalcitrant. The lack of co-operation from other member countries who are also members of the European Community is particularly regrettable. It is also the most damaging as the Community speaks with a single voice on the Council and that faltering voice is by far the biggest, carrying a quarter of the votes.

The International Tin Council was set up by treaty and in that sense is comparable to the European Community itself. Community members other than Britain may have less of an interest than have producers in an orderly tin market. One or two may even envy the position of the London Metal Exchange. They should, however be particularly aware that confidence in international institutions of many kinds depends on member states standing firmly behind their finances.

There is little excuse to do otherwise. The countries involved must have been made aware of the risk of trying to sustain the price of one metal by the discredited method of unlimited support. Experience in foreign exchange markets and the withdrawal of the United States from the ITC can only have emphasized the risk.

The members of the London Metal Exchange have played their part by absorbing financial risk rather than re-opening dealings that would have led inevitably to a tin price collapse. Bankers have been helpful in suggesting and supporting schemes for untangling the situation. Choosing the right mechanism will itself take time. It is up to the member states to speed that process by accepting their responsibilities swiftly and unequivocally.

## PhD delays

From the Professor of Physics and Electrical Engineering, University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. Sir, To complete research worthy of a PhD and to write up the thesis in three years requires a top-class performance from a top-class student, which is what a PhD student should be. Yet the research council's

grant to a research student is £2,665 to about £5,000, depending on age, marital status, etc. - say one third to one half of the going rate for a new graduate.

How can the research council expect graduates of top-class ability to accept their research stipends and to work at high pressure if they pay them a fraction of what those students could earn in normal employment?

Rather than criticise performance, the research council should write a personal letter of thanks to each student who accepts one of their miserable stipends.

Yours faithfully, A. C. ROSE-INNES, University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology, P.O. Box 88, Manchester, November 25.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Procedural question on Devon by-pass

From Lord Mollison. Sir, On Thursday, December 5, in the House of Lords I shall move the rejection of the Government's Bill seeking to force through Parliament the Department of Transport's preferred by-pass route south of Okehampton. The Bill reverses the decision of the joint committee which reported to both Houses in April.

An important procedural question is involved of concern to the wide public outside Parliament who subscribe to conservation causes. They are entitled to a general explanation to know how they can act in the future and whether with any hope of success if they establish their case.

Can it in any circumstances be right for the Government having earlier neglected to prevent reference of the petition by amenity societies to such a joint committee, that the Government should subsequently use its majority in the Commons to reverse the decision of that committee throwing out the departmental proposed scheme?

In 1961-62 the Government undertook a review of the operation of the special parliamentary procedure, as announced on August 1, 1961, by the then Mr Henry Brooke, then Conservative Minister of Housing and Local Government.

The Brooke committee reported in 1962:

... where a minister regards an Order as being so fundamental to his policy that, supposing it were rejected by a Joint Committee, he would insist on making it, even though this entailed introducing a confirming Bill under section 6 of the Act... such a case it would be only fair to the petitioner to save him pointless expense.

In so reporting, the Brooke committee supported the statement to the House of Commons by Mr Geoffrey Rippon, then the Conservative minister, in reply to a debate on a motion to refer a petition to a joint committee. Mr Rippon then said:

If the Minister regards an Order as being so fundamental to his policy that even if it went to a Joint Committee and even if the Joint Committee took a certain view he would nevertheless do as he is entitled to do, which is to introduce a Bill under section 6 of the Statutory Orders (Special Procedure) Act 1945, it would be quite unfair to the Petitioners or anyone else to allow the matter to go to a Joint Committee. (H.C. Deb, March 13, 1962, col. 174-5.)

The country is entitled to an answer to this important question for the purposes of the debate on December 5. Yours faithfully, MOLLISON, House of Lords, November 28.

### Resignations over art decisions

From Mr I. Treganthen Jenkin and Mr M. Murphy.

Sir, Having recently resigned from the Art and Design Working Group of the National Advisory Body for Public Sector Higher Education, we think that you may be interested in our reasons for doing so.

In line with its responsibility for the planning and provision of higher education in the public sector, the NAB has recently made two decisions which we see as highly damaging to art and design education in this country and to future professional achievement in these fields.

The decisions were taken in spite of unanimous opposition expressed by the working group. The first was to separate art and design, for planning, resourcing and academic purposes; and the second to maintain provision in design but reduce student intake and funding in art by an estimated 20 per cent.

Such measures are likely to result in the closure of one in five of existing art courses, and in doing irreparable damage to our international standing in design as well as in art. The essential inter-relationship of these subjects is widely acknowledged, as is the dependence of the professions, in this country, on the overall educational provision from which they so largely stem.

The kinds of concern which we expressed to the group, and in our letters of resignation, have been variously reiterated by all the specialist bodies whose informed and objective opinion was sought by NAB and seen by us.

Yours faithfully, IAN TREGANTHEN JENKIN (Curator, Royal Academy Schools), MYLES MURPHY (Principal, Wimbledon School of Art), Royal Academy of Arts, Piccadilly, W1, November 28.

### Freeing the market

From Sir Fred Catherwood, MEP for Cambridge and Bedfordshire, North (European Democrat (Conservative)), and Sir John Stewart-Clark, MEP for Sussex East (European Democrat (Conservative)).

Sir, The completion of the internal market by abolishing national regulations which still prevent the free movement of goods and services across European Community frontiers is vital. It gives the only possibility of reducing our crippling and expensive rate of unemployment which manifests itself across all countries of the EEC. Any expansion of national economies based on the utilization of borrowing power would be minuscule compared with the most marginal expansion of a common market of 320 million people.

All our Community partners, except possibly Denmark and Greece, believe that the recovery of Community trade depends on an improvement of the Community's decision-making machinery and, in particular, a limitation of the unanimity rule which has allowed a web of national non-tariff barriers to strangle the growth of trade. We trust that the Prime Minister at the forthcoming Luxembourg summit will show her faith in the power of a dynamic and frontier-free market to help get our people back to work; we hope, too, that she will battle for a radical change in voting procedures within the Council.

Britain's role next Monday and Tuesday will be crucial. Yours faithfully, FRED CATHERWOOD (Deputy Leader, European Democrat Group), JACK STEWART-CLARK (European Democrat Group spokesman on Institutional Affairs), The European Parliament, 97-113 rue Belliard, 1049 Brussels, Belgium, November 28.

### Uneasy lies the head

From Mr C. Howard

Sir, As an innkeeper, I was rather distressed to read of Miss Shaw's pillow experiences throughout the country (November 21). I am aware, I hope, of the needs of many weary travellers, including those that suffer from allergies, asthma and others, that often ask for foam-filled pillows.

After extended pillow talks in this hotel, it was decided to keep the facilities to choose your pillow filling, and thus accommodate those who prefer synthetic or duck down. Yours faithfully, CHRISTOPHER HOWARD, House Manager, The Angel Hotel, Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk, November 22.

### Royal Opera pay

From Mr D. V. Gaulier

Sir, How does the Royal Opera justify paying a 9 per cent salary increase to its, no doubt, strongly unionised orchestra? Not only is the opera heavily subsidised from public funds; its board of governors is comprised largely of leading public servants and major industrialists. Do these people really think it is wise to authorise such an award at a time when both Government and the CBI are urging moderation in pay settlements? Should not the Government urgently consider a reduction in the level of subsidy?

Public funds would be better devoted to employment-creating investment than to propping up such a profligate and weak management. Yours faithfully, DEREK GAULIER, Philips Hill, Old Shire Lane, Chorleywood, Hertfordshire, November 22.

### Trial by jury

From Mr J. D. Tunnicliffe

Sir, When reading Blackstone, as Mr James Gibbons (November 21), one does well to remember the context in which Blackstone was writing. At the time "that tenderness and humanity to prisoners for which our English laws are justly famous" meant the death penalty on conviction for stabbing or wounding, aggravated theft (like robbery, burglary or larceny in a dwellinghouse), house breaking and forgery. A trial on such a charge often took no longer than a careless driver takes today.

The prisoner was not allowed to give evidence in his own defence, as it was considered unthinkable that he could be relied on to speak the truth.

The origin of the jury system was trial by men who knew the prisoner personally, rather than by strangers; and the peremptory challenge was a safeguard against known malice. In more recent times this principle has

been stood on its head, so that personal acquaintance of the prisoner (now called the accused or the defendant) is regarded as a disqualification for a jurymen.

The standard of proof "beyond reasonable doubt" in criminal cases was set so high because of the irreversibility of capital punishment. It contrasts with proof on the balance of probabilities in civil actions, although today losing a civil action may mean financial ruin, while conviction for shoplifting, for example, may mean no more than a small fine or a year's probation.

All in all there are respectable grounds for thinking that the balance of the present system of criminal process and punishment is too favourable to the criminal and should be substantially redressed in favour of society.

Yours faithfully, J. D. TUNNICLIFFE, 100 High Street, Great Abington, Cambridge, November 25.

### Sunday trading

From the Director of the Scottish Consumer Council

Sir, I am sorry that James Rutter (November 14) believes that unrestricted Sunday trading would lead to "the relative calm and peace of Sunday in our towns and cities" being "abolished". This is not the experience in Scotland, where good sense reigns and trading on a Sunday is not treated as a criminal activity. Sunday remains a distinctive day here because that is how people want it to be.

Calm and peace prevail in Scotland's towns and cities, even though around one in six shops is open for some part of Sunday and there are concentrated pockets of thriving commercial activity at the traditional "barras" in Glasgow or at the new Cameron Toll in Edinburgh.

The people who frequent DIY shops and garden centres, or who go out to buy children's clothes, furniture or groceries on a Sunday are not noticeably rowdy and those who choose not to shop on a Sunday are largely unaffected by those who do. There is no discernible pressure to alter the law in Scotland.

It is very difficult to reassure people in England and Wales who are genuinely worried about the "quality of life" on Sunday. One thing they could do is come up to Scotland and spend a Sunday wandering about any town or city. They will return home reassured, all the more so for being slightly bored. Yours sincerely, PETER GIBSON, Director, Scottish Consumer Council, 314 St Vincent Street, Glasgow, November 18.

### Education and industry

From the Director of Industry Year 1986

Sir, The argument of Industry Year 1986 is not as simplistic as John Rae (feature, November 18) appears to assume. The problem we face is long relative industrial decline, now measurable over a hundred years, within which context there exist a number of internationally competitive companies, though significantly fewer than in competitor countries.

The question which Industry Year addresses is why is this so? Since the familiar pursuit of scapegoats exposes nothing except the British disease of blaming others.

Industry is indeed inadequate and of course needs to put its own house in order. But industrial performance is caught in a vicious circle: historically our most talented students have esteemed other occupations above industry, therefore industry has performed inadequately; therefore it does not attract

the most talented; therefore it is inadequate.

It is a vicious circle that Industry Year seeks ultimately to break, recognising that industry has the major role to play. Its premise that we have an anti-industrial culture has been remarkably potent in helping to create in little more than 12 months a nationwide structure, involving distinguished individuals from all parts of the community including education, probably unprecedented other than in time of war.

In the process of change education undoubtedly has a role to play, not as the villain of the piece, but as a significant factor in reflecting and reinforcing the attitudes of the community as a whole.

Studies of motivation rarely show monetary reward to head the list of incentives for our brightest and most capable students: job satisfaction and social value invariably come higher. Industry's failure does not lie in the inadequacy of salary, but in failing to dispel the belief that it is not an activity of equal social and moral value to teaching, medicine or nursing. In countering this belief a positive response to the environmental challenge raised by Tom Burke (feature, November 19) would play an important part.

But industry would succeed on its own. The absence of sufficient managers with professional training is a symptom, not a cause, and only an effort by all, including education, will remedy it. Yours faithfully, GEOFFREY CHANDLER, Director, Industry Year 1986, 8 John Adam Street, WC2, November 18.

### Boots for winter

From Mrs Roy McKenzie

Sir, My mother wore a pair of my father's old woollen socks over her shoes and walked on icy pavements with confidence (letter, November 25). They were dark, discreet, and cost nothing! Yours faithfully, MARGARET MCKENZIE, 19 Mackney Road, Holbrook, Derby, November 25.



## ON THIS DAY

DECEMBER 2 1936

The Crystal Palace was destroyed by fire on the night of November 30, Joseph Paxton's building was erected in Hyde Park, London, for the Great Exhibition of 1851; it prompted Thackeray to write (with second sight!) of the "blazing arch of lucid glass". When the exhibition closed the building was bought by a company and rebuilt - increased in length from 1,851 ft to 2,756 ft - on Sydenham Hill, south London, and opened by the Queen in June, 1854. For years it was the city's most popular resort; from 1894 to 1914 the Cup Final was played there. In 1913 it became the property of the nation.

## THE CRYSTAL PALACE

### MYSTERY OF THE FIRE

Yesterday, except for a gaunt framework of girders, brown glass, and smouldering beams at the north end, there was nothing left of the Crystal Palace to show a stranger that a vast structure architecturally proportionate to the two towers had existed 34 years earlier. Only in the far north-east corner of the main building did a few intact groups of stables and kings' tombs remain: elsewhere there was a mass of twisted steel and rubble, with sporadic fires smouldering underneath.

The two features of the fire which chiefly mystified the public have been its origin and the speed with which the flames tore through the building. The former is still far from solution, and may remain so indefinitely, as even the staff firemen who were on the spot at the time (there had been a change of shifts at 7 p.m., about half an hour before the outbreak) cannot say where it started in the office staff lavatory.

Once started, the fire had far more wood to feed on than was generally known. Apart from floors, chairs, tables, and the like, there was wood in the walls and roof which had not been replaced by steel, and such wooden beams as existed, being old, were ideal tinder for sparks. Yesterday they could be seen still smouldering and falling from the northern ruins.

### A MELANCHOLY SCENE

The ruins in this section, where strips of steel and glass swung dangerously in the breeze, had an exotic and melancholy appearance, due to the interior architecture and exhibits. Venus and a faun in plaster, still intact on the edge of chaos, gazed across at the equally intact fountain with its bronze nymphs and the blackened (but still summing) goldfish. Effigies of the Kings of England on their tombs were surrounded by debris, and a small chapel, with a sagging floor and one end destroyed, irresistibly recalled Madrid. Towards the centre and southern end the confusion was less romantic, more the aftermath of war in its formlessness. Blackened but unbroken portraits were littered in the storehouse of the television laboratory, while two of Baird's workmen were looking hopefully for their bags of tools near a barely recognisable lathe. Complete devastation had come near enough to the South Tower for the danger that had threatened the houses beyond to be self-evident.

### LOSS OF AN OLD FRIEND

The large crowds eddying up and down outside talks of the Palace, not so much as a great South London institution but as an old friend, suddenly dead, who had been taken too much for granted in his lifetime. Police guarded the gates, and Sir Henry Buckland had turned the Palace staff on to the erection of barbed wire in the early morning, but occasionally groups who had found gaps in the long line of defences had to be rounded up and turned out. Traffic started to increase at lunch time and became thicker as the day continued, but cars and pedestrians were kept apart, respectively by the police. Air liners and sightseeing machines from Croydon came over in large numbers until they were warned off by an Air Ministry Order.

### LOST BOOKINGS

The loss of the Palace has created serious difficulties for many who had arranged to use the building in the near future or at the height of Coronation Year. The National Cat and Show was to have been held there to-day and tomorrow, but has been telescoped into a one-day event at the Paddington Baths to-day. The Christmas circus has had to be put off, and another lost booking affects 30,000 children from Camberwell, and 6,000 from Richmond, who were to have heard Miss Gracie Fields at the Palace in Coronation week.

The directors of the great national band contests, which have been held at the Palace for 40 years, will be at a loss to find another hall capable of holding 20,000 or 40,000 people. Mr J. Henry Hies, their founder and director, said that it was unique for his purpose and that he once refused to organize a similar musical festival in the U.S.A. because America had no Crystal Palace.

The festival of the Free Church Choir Union, with a 60 years' attachment to the building, will have the same difficulty in finding a hall to accommodate the large choir and orchestra, especially for the intended jubilee celebration of 1938.

### Opera comique?

From Mr Harry Guest.

Sir, Having just endured a mercifully well-timed production of *Rigoletto* in which (a) act 1 was set in a multi-gym (b) the singers had to dress-ups in soot and (c) Gilda extracted herself from her sack and exited up a steel spiral staircase, I have every sympathy with Mr Boothroyd (November 28).

The duty of a producer is twofold: one, to obey the instructions of the playwright or the composer and the librettist; two, to convey the work clearly to the audience 90 per cent of whom will only be seeing it once in their lives. It is not to tickle the jaded palates of modish journalists. Yours etc, HARRY GUEST, 1 Alexandra Terrace, Exeter, Devon, November 28.







# THE ARTS

## Jazz: Django Bates is set to become a major figure of the new generation of British artists. Interview by Richard Williams

### Simply prodigious talent

Visitors to Ronnie Scott's Jazz Club this week will not take long to recognize that they are in the presence of a phenomenon. From punkish crops and fashionably crumpled baggy suits to hippie pony-tails and skinhead pork-pie hats, in visual terms alone the 21 members of Loose Tubes represent an extraordinary juxtaposition of personal styles.

They sound even more unusual than they look, offering a cornucopia of approaches united by an infectious enthusiasm that is most clearly expressed during a tune called "Stanley's Shuffle", when the musicians dance through the audience in a sort of indoor British pastiche of a New Orleans street parade.

Earlier this year, that routine enabled these young musicians to conquer both their anxiety and the audience's reserve during their first season at Scott's. "A lot of things about the British jazz scene have been changing," Django Bates, the band's pianist, said the other day, agreeing with a suggestion that a more inclusive attitude is prevailing. "One of the things it includes is the audience, which hasn't always been the case."

Bates also plays synthesizers, melodica and tenor horn, and is one of Loose Tubes' three main contributing composers. His prodigious talents have made him practically ubiquitous over the past couple of years, both as the leader of his own group, Human Chain (currently a duo with the percussionist Steve Argüelles), and as a member of several others, notably the Iain Ballamy Quartet and Ken Stubbs's First House.

A slight, pale 25-year-old whose diffidence in conversation contrasts strongly with his animation on stage, Bates seems certain to become the first major figure produced by this exciting new generation of technically advanced and conceptually broad-minded British jazz musicians.

He grew up in Beckenham, listening intently to his father's collection of jazz and blues records. "I was probably dancing to Charlie Parker's 'My Little Suede Shoes' before I had my first birthday," he says. "As I got older, I wore that record white." Parker remains an abiding passion, as do Stevie Wonder, Keith Jarrett and a variety of ethnic music.

At the age of eight he began

lessons that eventually included trumpet and violin as well as the piano; at 17, when he began attending a course in harmony and counterpoint at Morley College, the trumpet had become his main instrument. Two weeks into a four-year stretch at the Royal College of Music, however, he dropped out of formal musical education. "I knew it wasn't what I wanted. I'd just followed the route my friends had taken, without thinking what I was doing."

Lunchtime dishwashing subsidized his early forays into the professional jazz world, where he unconsciously ascribes his popularity with handleaders to "a shortage of pianists". Particularly important to his development was a weekly engagement in Rotherhithe, east London, with a trio that also included Steve Berry, the double bass player and composer who is now his colleague in Loose Tubes.

The orchestra has its origins in a rehearsal band assembled by the composer Graham Collier, a product of the preceding generation. "From past experience with big bands, I wasn't too keen. They don't usually experiment much and

there isn't a great deal of room to improvise. They give horn players a bit of practice, but for the rhythm section it can be very uninspiring. We began to bring our own compositions in, though, and it started to develop."

Eighteen months ago, the band declared independence and began to pursue an existence as a co-operative venture.

Now they have taken the courageous step of recording and issuing their first album, raising the production costs from their own resources. "It's nice to prove that we can do without the middle-men of the record business," he observes. "We think we've achieved a reasonable document of how we sounded at the time."

From the intricate chamber jazz of First House to the roaring juggernaut of Loose Tubes, Bates observes his personal credo: "You can play absolutely free and aggressive music, and still be accessible. There's a simplicity about the Human Chain duo, for example, that allows people to latch on to what's being done. It all depends on the way you approach it."

## Television

### Familiar feelings

The third episode of *Comrades* (BBC 2) was concerned with those who wish to "buck the system" of the Soviet Union, and to defy a society which otherwise oppresses "ordinary people". This is not an unfamiliar situation in countries outside the Soviet bloc, of course, and the response is not unfamiliar either - last night's programme *All That Jazz*, examined the activities of a young "unofficial" Russian musician and his band.

As an account of young people on the fringes of Soviet society, it had moments of interest, as a political or social analysis of their behaviour, however, the programme lacked depth and relied instead upon the musicians' own rather garbled explanation of their activities. When one of them was expelled from the local college for what he called "non-conformity and non-attendance" for example, I suspect that the latter was probably the important consideration.

They were in fact very much like "alternative" musicians from any other culture, representing a great deal of enthusiasm and energy not all of which was transformed into memorable sound. It could also be said that their revolt against the Soviet system was no

Peter Ackroyd

Concerts	Concerts	Concerts
RPO/Previn	RLPO/Foss	ASMF/Brown
Royal Festival Hall	Philharmonic Hall, Liverpool	Queen Elizabeth Hall

André Previn and the Royal Philharmonic adopted a far more positive (and rather better prepared) approach to this programme of some of the twentieth century's more tuneful classics than they had displayed earlier in the week. The only continuing disappointment is the RPO's lacklustre woodwind principals.

The solos in Britten's *Young Person's Guide* sounded safe when they should have been showy, and though Copland's *Appalachian Spring* quotes the song which tells us that "this is a gift to be simple" such deliberately naive melodic material surely demands far more characterful solo playing than it received here.

In general, however, both players and conductor radiated enjoyment. Nowhere was the excitement higher than in Prokofiev's Third Piano Concerto, where Jon Kimura Parker was the soloist. Parker's sometimes irritating habit of placing strong emphasis on "the time" hardly mattered in a concerto where for long stretches the soloist is required to play very fast octaves.

In the central variations he was perhaps a little unyielding towards the music's lyrical potential, but Previn's spacious and intensely expressive unfolding of the great Russian theme which climbs majestically through the strings, had enough purple sentiment to satisfy the most poetic souls.

He was thoroughly alert, too, to the sensual pleasures of Ravel's *Rhapsodie Espagnole*, paying particular attention to the myriad sophisticated string effects that give the work its hypnotic and unashamedly decadent quality.

There was a certain appropriateness on Saturday night in having the British premiere of Lukas Foss's *Night Music for John Lennon* take place in Lennon's home town. I suspect, though, that pious remembrance played less part in this than did the adventurousness of the Royal Liverpool Philharmonic Orchestra. They were being conducted by Foss in a programme that put his own piece in the slightly bizarre company of Vaughan Williams's *Tallis Fantasia* and Brahms's First Symphony.

Foss as a conductor is a figure of activity, but of activity not always efficiently directed. During a career of over 40 years he has written symphonies and improvisation pieces, folksy Americana and a once-notorious send-up of Bach and others (*Baroque Variations*).

*Night Music* again has baroque leanings, in that it has the form of a prelude and fugue ending with a chorale, the scoring being for brass quintet and orchestra. This time, though, there are no borrowed tunes, whether from the 18th century or from Lennon. There is sometimes a tinge of rock in the harmony, and more than a tinge in the electric guitar part that becomes prominent in the future.

But the simple rhapsodizing of the prelude, the spluttering machine movement of the fugue, the climaxes of haphazard counterpoint and the cosy chorale have little to do with the ostensible subject. One may, however, be glad of that when Foss's response to Lennon's shooting is to reproduce it as a slurred orchestral cut-off.

If the prominent display of *Amadeus* soundtrack recordings in the QEII foyer reminded concert-goers that the Academy of St Martin in the Fields enjoys a fairly formidable commercial dominance of the Mozart repertoire, the Mozart playing within reassured one that this dominance is no marketing sleight-of-hand.

Mozart's "Haffner" Serenade was given a high-spirited yet tightly controlled performance which confirmed that the Academy's standards remain entirely dependable.

The polished ensemble was particularly notable, since the orchestra's director Iona Brown, inevitably had to devote much of her own resources to the technically challenging solo violin part. She managed the double feat with her customary aplomb.

Just as impressive was the orchestra's response. The opening movement and the various minuets had a properly full-blooded air of festive pomp, but in the trio the chamber dialogues came to the fore, with some particularly effective work by the sure-lipped horns.

The evening's other soloist was the Argentinian pianist Bruno Leonardo Gelber. His account of Mozart's G major Concerto, K453, had its rough edges.

But his restless probing - emphasizing the slow movement's latent drama aggressively, and articulating allegro staccato touch - was not ineffective, and it certainly contrasted with the ultra-refined approach of Mitsuko Uchida's current Mozart cycle in this hall.

## Gallery: British tradition and European culture on display in America

### The development of taste

Of course *The Treasure Houses of Britain* (at the National Gallery, Washington until March 16) is a success. How could it not be? Admittedly the crowds are not so overwhelming as those for the great New York shows like the *Picasso* or even last year's *Van Gogh at Arles*. At the height of the Washington rush, you can get in without much of a wait, and go around comfortably, able to see all the exhibits. It is an ideal entertainment for those many Americans who revere British tradition and European culture.

That, in fact, is what has given some people pause. It is clearly regarded by the National Gallery as just an entertainment; they refer to the giveaway pamphlet as the "catalogue" which tells you "all you need to know", and the catalogue itself, which is, incidentally, a formidable work of scholarship and documentation, as the "colour gift book".

But more arguable, or at least more argued-over, is the tendency people sense in the show to encourage American notions that Britain is all grand and quaint and historic, and embalmed that way somewhere around 1850.

Some years ago, when the main racial issue in Britain was *The Black and White Minstrel Show*, a leader in this paper sagely remarked that since most of life was negotiated by way of stereotypes, surely the most important question was whether the stereotypes you were stuck with was attractive and saleable or not. Undoubtedly, the historic fantasy of Britain is attractive and saleable, and even true. But is it not the whole truth? But what exhibition, however comprehensive, tells the whole truth?

The only real objection to the dazzling selection offered here is that voiced by one of the leading lords on British television (though not, I believe American) that there should be at least one little room of grand country house taste.

Nor is modern art very thrillingly celebrated with one very small Henry

Moore sculpture, a portrait each by Sutherland and Annington, and a Piper view. But then again, if you are trying to represent British country houses as they actually are, that is a representative enough observation.

But enough of quibbles. The pictures, sculptures and objects d'art on show have been admirably selected and brilliantly displayed by Jervase Jackson-Stops and his team.

Though it has to be the merest sampling of what the country house has to offer, these are pieces that even the most assiduous country house tourist will never have seen - a Hilliard unnoted by scholarship, for instance. But for the British visitor, at least, the main effect will be of a familiarity which would be comfortable if the succession of masterworks were not so long and unrelenting.

As it is, the very size of the show - said to be the largest ever staged by the National Gallery - does urge one beyond the immediate response to its copious supply of great paintings by all the expected British masters and by illustrious visitors from Van Dyke to Sargent: we start asking questions, and receiving some remarkably direct answers, about the development of British taste and of the people who shaped and embodied it.

In this respect the show makes a serious and thorough documented historical statement: the country house idea is not just an excuse for assembling "treasures", but a way of coming to grips with the aristocratic and upper class contribution to British cultural history.

Expectations of complacency are regularly knocked on the head, as we see in the impact of the Grand Tour at the heyday of confidence, or the effects of the Industrial Revolution, shown largely by reaction in favour of an imaginary Gothic past or the medieval dream world of arts and crafts conjured up by Morris, which ironically, found its most enthusiastic purchasers among the rich and high-born.

It is in fact, in these latter sections that the most unexpected insights are to



Reynolds rubs shoulders in the Waterloo Gallery with the grandest imports: Lady Caroline Scott as Winter

be found. Earlier on visitors will no doubt appreciate more the skill with which the exhibition designers have conjured up the effect of a Jacobean long gallery, a country house library, a sculpture rotunda or a "Waterloo Gallery" where Gainsborough, Reynolds, Constable, Turner and Flaxman rub shoulders with the grandest imports of Rubens, Velasquez and Canova to make a fitting climax.

John Russell Taylor

## Infanticide/Joseph and Mary

### Latchmere

Peter Turrini is apparently the "enfant terrible of the Viennese literary world" which may be an appetizing recommendation, and these two short pieces of his, given by the Umbrella Theatre company, may be representative of his work as a whole. It is certainly easier for small stones to make ripples in

## Theatre

stagnant than in moving water. *Infanticide*, directed by David Laverdier, has Debbie Hall as a young unmarried mother on trial for strangling and drowning her baby daughter. Sitting on a plain, wooden chair stage-centre, she agonizes over her feelings of "unreality".

The favourite daughter in a bourgeois family, harried by incestuous longings for her father, she left home to live with a young man whom she loved,

but who had not the sensitivity to satisfy her sexual needs. All this is as authentic as a leaf from Dr Freud's casebook, but the awkward device of introducing the voices of her father, her lover, and the prosecutor on a pre-recorded tape invites us to see her exclusively as a victim of the male world, while her compensatory fantasies about the "natural" life of Red Indians are simply ludicrous.

In *Joseph and Mary* we find Herr Turrini in an altogether jollier mood. A security guard (Peter Badger) and a cleaning woman (Valerie Griffiths) while away the last hours of Christmas Eve in the department store where they work.

He is a repressed, testatol, free-thinking socialist, a survivor of the Nazi plague and a former actor. She is a rather aggrieved widow with a career of exotic dancing behind her.

The piece proceeds as a collision of reminiscing monologues which develop into roguish naughtiness as they flit a bottle of brandy from a display stand, tango around the store and fetch up together in a sofa.

Mr Badger has an agreeably quirky delivery which owes something to the late Alastair Sim, but Colin Granger's production has precious few laughs.

## The weekend's dance

### Classical attributes

If I were to try to draw a general conclusion from the extremely disparate kinds of dance on view over the weekend, it would have to be that the classical ballet companies have a clearer idea of communicating with audiences than do their would-be alternatives.

I hope I am being unduly pessimistic in fearing that *A Mass for Man* (BBC2) will have put off more viewers than it attracted. The first serious dance work created to a BBC commission for many years, it had one interesting idea in that its choreographer, Robert Cohan, had planned all the close-ups, so that when we saw only feet or faces we knew it was by artistic intention rather than a cameraman's vagaries or a director's whims.

But the manifest sincerity of the creator and his performers from London Contemporary Dance Theatre did not overcome the paucity and conventionality of the material, which got lost under the trendy interpolation of newsreel shots and the efficient rather than inspired score by Geoffrey Burgon.

Cohan said he intended his Mass to look like an improvised ritual. Katie Dope in her Dance Umbrella commission at Riverside Studios, *Reckless*, also used improvisation to show how "we live with our clichés". And how! The self-exiled American choreographer's own Group-O from Florence, four of the most experienced independent dancers in Britain and a group of musicians led by Tristan Honninger, had laboured for weeks to produce what looked like amateur charades of such an appalling level of inconsequentiality that, had this been really a group playing games, someone would surely have said this isn't working, let's do something else.

Another show at Riverside, *The Kosh in Marked Cards*, also had little to do with dance in any interesting or purposeful form, but its combination of acrobatics, and a few simple dance movements, plus some rather crude acting, achieved a level of energy that made its rather naive exposé of the evils of gambling tolerable; and it was at least intermittently entertaining, although overlong, because they simply cannot let rip for 75 minutes non-stop and therefore have to save all the best bits until near the end.

The classical ballet companies at Sadler's Wells and Covent Garden, one in a programme of new works, the other in a new production of an old classic, both knew exactly what they were after, what their dancers could do, and what would entertain an audience. Both had new casts on show.

The small-scale programme by London Festival Ballet at the Wells on Saturday afternoon included a highly promising account by young Karen Gee of the *Tchaikovsky Pas de Deux*

and a marvellously lyrical performance of the Rachmaninov *Three Preludes* by Caroline Humphson.

The Royal Ballet on Saturday night presented the first of three new interpreters who are to play the title role in *Giselle* over the next few weeks. Maria Almeida shows *Giselle* as a nice, robust country girl who would doubtless have made a reasonably happy marriage with the forerunner Hilmar if she had not become besotted with the disguised Count Albrecht. There is nothing very new in her approach but she has youth, a good long line and clarity of movement on her side: all welcome qualities.

The ballet gained, too, from a reallocation of the leading male roles. Anthony Dowell makes Albrecht a shifty, arrogant fellow and Stephen Jeffries, moving from that part to play Hilmar, gives that sometimes shadowy character a strong, sympathetic interpretation. The drama, especially in Act One, gains a lot from this.

John Percival

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SHIPPING

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SHOES AND LEATHER

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MOTORS AND AIRCRAFT

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NEWSPAPERS AND PUBLISHERS



## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

# Back to Square One with income tax cuts

The Government's attitude to income tax is distinctly puzzling. It has constantly expressed a desire to cut tax, which is a nice time to have heard from some other governments. And on the occasions when it has actually increased tax, it has at least done so out of financial prudence rather than deliberate policy. But on the question of how income tax should be cut, its answer seems to change with every budget.

Since the next Budget will be accompanied by long-term thoughts in the form of a green paper on personal tax, one might suppose that the form chosen for next spring's tax cuts would represent, as it were, the Government's final view. Me, I would not count on it.

The basic choice remains between cutting the rate of tax and reducing the range of income over which tax is paid. We are back to where Sir Geoffrey Howe began in 1979. The Prime Minister, it seems, now fancies a chip or two off the basic tax rate, after years of concentration on increases in tax thresholds, or "basic allowances" of tax-free income.

As time ticks by since Sir Geoffrey departed from the Treasury to foreign pastures, the importance of his Chancellorship becomes increasingly apparent. It would therefore be quite fitting if the Government were to end this parliament by meeting the target Sir Geoffrey set in 1979, by reducing the basic rate of tax to 25 per cent.

Yet its green paper (promised for this autumn, but now unlikely to see the light before Budget day itself) will have the opposite focus. It will say that income tax should be reformed by increasing allowances sharply for couples of whom only one is at work, by giving each of them a tax allowance which can be transferred to the other if necessary.

It might be argued that Sir Geoffrey's decision to cut the basic rate of income tax in his first Budget was less an act of deliberate policy than a political necessity, given that he had determined to make substantial cuts in the top rates of tax. However, the 3p reduction in the basic rate was deliberately presented as the "first instalment" in a series.

But even in this first Budget, the Chancellor hedged his tax bets. Tax thresholds were also raised, by twice as much as was necessary to compensate for the previous year's inflation. This highlights a critical difference between rates and allowances. The latter have to be increased every year if their real value is not to be reduced by inflation.

### Changed tactics

In 1980, the Chancellor continued to raise allowances, but scooped in some extra cash by abolishing the lower-rate band of income on which tax was then only charged at 25p. But in 1981, even more strapped for cash, he changed tactics, he saved £2½ billion by leaving all basic income tax allowances unaltered. So the net effect of the Tories' first three years was to have made some reduction in the rate of tax, particularly for the higher-paid, but to have lowered the real level of tax thresholds, and increased the rate of tax on those marginally above it.

The next two Budgets were largely devoted to repairing the erosion of tax allowances; thresholds were pushed up by more than the rate of inflation. So in his first Budget, in 1984, Mr Nigel Lawson could point out that tax thresholds were now about 8 per cent higher, in real terms, than they were in 1979.

Yet even with this clean slate to write on, Mr Lawson announced that he had decided to use "every penny" on further increases in allowances. He raised the threshold for single and married people under 65 by twice the figure necessary to compensate for inflation.

Policy, it seemed, had been set for the second parliament. There was much talk, from both the Prime Minister and the Chancellor, of the damage done by low

thresholds. They deepened the poverty trap, because too many people found themselves simultaneously in receipt of means-tested benefits and subject to income tax. They exacerbated the unemployment trap, making it more likely that the unemployed might find themselves little worse off on the dole than in a job.

It may be debatable whether increases in thresholds are the most cost-effective way of reducing either "trap". What is unquestionable is that the government was genuinely determined to tackle the problem in this way, and recognized that perseverance would be needed to make an impact. It took considerable pride in "taking people out of the tax" at each successive Budget, particularly those of working age, for whom large increases in allowances were specifically reserved in the 1984 and 1985 budgets.

### Single allowance

But now, it seems, the pattern is going to change again. Mrs Thatcher is keen on reducing rates. This is not a cheap ambition; it now costs £1.2 billion to take 1p off the basic rate of tax. The last budget forecast nearly £10 billion of tax cuts by 1988-89, or £6½ billion by 1987-88 (the earliest sensible year for the next general election). Although falling oil prices could erode the Treasury's North Sea earnings, revenue from other sources looks stronger than in that forecast. So Mrs Thatcher should be able to find the £6 billion or so necessary to reach the magical 25 per cent basic rate. But what, meanwhile, would happen to thresholds?

All such forecasts assume that allowances are "indexed" - raised each year in line with inflation. So the Chancellor could meanwhile ensure that their real value did not fall. This, unfortunately, would not prevent an increase in the number of taxpayers. For earnings are rising faster than prices, which means more and more people are drawn into the tax net unless the tax threshold is also increased in real terms. A tax threshold that is merely indexed will inevitably draw people into tax.

And what, meanwhile, of the green paper? Replacing the variety of allowances available to married couples by two single "transferable" allowances would make most working couples worse off, unless the single allowance was simultaneously increased. This is because such couples today receive the equivalent of two single allowances, plus the married man's extra. To make up for the loss of the married man's allowance, the single allowance would - in today's money - have to be increased by £25. And this, too, would be expensive.

I think I understand how the pattern is going to be given coherence. If the change envisaged by the green paper is to be achieved painlessly, it makes sense to leave allowances unchanged for the moment. The larger they are, the greater the cost of increasing the value of two single allowances to match the existing value of the married man's allowance plus the wife's earned income allowance. In the meantime, reductions in tax rates actually reduce the future cost of raising allowances. If we are paying only 25p, then every pound of income taken out of the basic tax rate band (ie, added to basic tax allowances) costs the Government one-sixth less, in lost revenue, than it would if the basic rate were 30p in the pound.

In today's money, every 1 per cent increase in the basic income tax thresholds would cost only £180 million rather than £215 million. So rate cuts should come first, with changes in allowances to follow, once the green paper has had time to be considered, the Inland Revenue's new computers are working - and the election is over. It all makes logical sense - which is not quite the same thing as strategic vision.

Sarah Hogg  
Economics Editor

# Argyll and Imperial poised to launch record £3bn bids

By Jeremy Warner Business Correspondent

Takeover bids totalling an unprecedented £3 billion are expected to be launched on the Stock Exchange today.

Distillers, the Haig whisky group, is expected to become the target of the biggest single takeover bid ever launched in Britain. Argyll, the food retailing group run by Mr James Gulliver, is poised to make a £1.8 billion shares and cash offer, dwarfing any previous bid made in London. The bid will be fought by the Distillers directors.

At the same time, Imperial Group, the John Player cigarettes and Courage brewing group, will announce agreed takeover terms for United Biscuits, valuing it at £1.2 billion.

Both deals are expected to be

scrutinized by the Office of Fair Trading and are likely to be referred to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission for a six-month investigation.

Argyll has been stalking Distillers, the dominant force in Scotland's whisky industry, since the summer, claiming privately that Distillers has lost its way in the last 10 years and suffered a severe fall in its worldwide share of the spirits market.

Mr John Connell, the Distillers chairman, said yesterday that there was nothing he could say about the bid until he had seen the terms, expected to be worth 510p a share in Argyll shares and cash. There will also be an underwritten straight cash alternative worth 480p a share.

Distillers has responded to

the Argyll threat with a wide-ranging management shake-up at all levels. It has also said that after so many years in the doldrums, the world whisky market is at last beginning to pick up and that its market share is now rising steadily.

Argyll's bid today will be accompanied by a strongly worded attack on Distillers' management record, describing recent changes as "no more than cosmetic".

The counter attack from Distillers will concentrate on Argyll's size which is less than a third that of Distillers, its lack of experience in international brand marketing, and the high borrowings required for the bid.

Imperial Group's bid for United Biscuits, on the other

hand, will be couched in terms of a friendly merger. Mr Geoffrey Kent of Imperial will become executive chairman of the enlarged group and Sir Hector Laing, chairman of United Biscuits, will be chief executive.

The deal would make food the biggest part of Imperial, which already owns Ross Group, HP Sauce and Golden Wonder. The tobacco group has been looking for expansion after sorting out its own problems, culminating in the sale of the Howard Johnson motel chain in the US.

Many of United's biggest competitors are now part of huge international conglomerates. The merger, however, could leave either side vulnerable to a takeover bid from a third party.

# SGB raises dividend to fend off BET offer

By Graham Searjeant Financial Editor

SGB, the scaffolding group, has announced an estimated 23 per cent rise in pretax profits to £13.5 million as part of a strongly worded defence document rejecting a £110 million takeover from the conglomerate BET.

The profit rise is backed up by a large rise in dividends for the year ended in September and an even bigger increase for the current year. Mr Clive Beck, SGB's deputy chairman, tells shareholders that the company has decided to increase its total dividend for the year by 19 per cent to a net 7p per share, compared with the 11 per cent dividend rise proposed previously.

The company is also forecasting a further "substantial increase in pretax profits" in the current year and says that a detailed forecast is already being prepared. Current year profits will be helped by the elimination of losses on discontinued operations which cost £1.5 million in the latest year and there is also likely to be a lower tax charge.

On that basis, the SGB board is already forecasting a further 33 per cent rise in dividend in the current year to 10p net per share.

The board says it has strengthened its operations further by selling its Australian businesses for more than book value.

Mr Beck criticises BET for lack of earnings growth in the past three years and for the lack of a cash alternative in its present offer. The offer from BET which owns the Stephens & Carter scaffolding businesses, followed an earlier offer from the Beazer group. But Mr Beck says the BET offer is just "another attempt to acquire SGB shares too cheaply."

# UK and Poland sign accord to reschedule debt

Warsaw (Reuters). - Britain and Poland have signed an accord rescheduling government-guaranteed debts owed by Warsaw between 1982 and 1984, but it contained no pledges of further loans, Western diplomatic sources said yesterday.

The agreement was an important step towards normalizing financial relations, severed after Poland declared martial law in 1981, the sources added.

They declined to reveal the amount involved, but said payment of principal and interest already owed would be made from 1990 to 1995.

Polish officials have stressed that more loans are needed to revive the country's economy

# Debt nations say Baker plan is not enough

Argentina and Brazil praised the United States "Baker plan" to aid debtor countries at the weekend but said it was not enough.

The presidents of the two countries called for a bolder stance by Latin America in its quest for a new world economic order.

The call came in a joint statement issued after a two-day meeting between Señor Raúl Alfonsín of Argentina and Señor José Sarney of Brazil.

It said Latin America must reinforce its negotiating powers with the world to prevent continued vulnerability of countries in the region to policies adopted without their participation.

They praised the "Baker plan", a proposed aid initiative named after US Treasury Secretary Mr James Baker, as a positive step by Washington in recognizing debt as a political issue.

But they said the plan, under which 15 debtor nations could receive \$20 billion in new bank loans over three years and expanded finance from multilateral lending agencies, was insufficient.

It failed to contemplate protectionism by developed countries, the drain on indebted nations' financial resources and deterioration of their trade balances.

Ecuador's foreign minister, Señor Edgar Terán said his country plans to participate in the "Baker plan" and is in a good position to take advantage of it.

Ecuador, with foreign debts of \$7 billion dollars, reached preliminary agreement with creditors a year ago to refinance \$4.3 billion due by 1989, but the accord has not been signed because of failure to meet IMF requirements.

Meanwhile, the Latin American Economic System (Sela) said Latin American economic prospects appear bleaker this year, with regional exports likely to fall 9 per cent because of an economic slowdown in the US and lower commodity prices.

An expected trade surplus of \$37.6 billion will only just cover interest payments on the region's \$360 billion foreign debt, Sela said in a review of Latin America's economy, prepared for an annual meeting of foreign ministers from its 25 member states in Caracas this week.

But the US Federal Reserve Board chairman, Mr Paul Volcker, said Washington would work with Latin America to achieve sustained growth

# Singapore SE closed in business crisis

From Paul Routledge Singapore

An acute business crisis has been triggered in Singapore by the failure of a rescue plan for the big industrial corporation Pan-Electric. The Singapore Stock Exchange has been closed "until further notice" to avoid panic selling. The move could even delay the quotation of Singapore Airlines.

The monetary authorities took this unprecedented step after a consortium of banks secured a high court ruling to put Pan-Electric into receivership.

Mr Og Tjin An, chairman of the committee of the Singapore Stock Exchange, said after lengthy talks with the monetary authorities of Singapore that the exchange was being closed "to cool off the market." The closure would probably last "a few days," he said.

Some indication of the deeper problems facing the nation's financial system may be gained from a statement from the Stock Exchange. It said: "A scheme for the strengthening of the securities industry in Singapore" was being drawn up for submission to the authorities. Officials refused to be drawn on what measures are under consideration.

In a jittery market made uncertain by the suspension of trading in Pan-Electric shares on November 19, the Straits Times share index fell almost 67 points in the 10 days to close of business on Friday, to reach a 41-month low of 691.81.

There were fears that large sums would be wiped off the value of shares if the Stock Exchange had opened for



Ong Tjin An: let the market cool off

normal trading this morning in the wake of Pan-Electric being put into receivership of Price Waterhouse after a high court hearing on Saturday.

Asked why the exchange would be closed, Mr Ong said: "I think shares might fall... that is what we are trying to prevent." The exchange in Kuala Lumpur was asked to take similar action.

Pan-Electric owes \$3350 million (about £120 million) to more than 30 banks, the creditor banks moved to put in the receivers "with extreme reluctance and after exploring every possible alternative", saying their intention was to protect the interests of shareholders, employees and creditors, and to provide "orderliness and sound financial management as well as to examine the long-term viability" of the Pan-Electric group.

The first sign of trouble emerged when Pan-Electric posted a half-year loss of \$55.8 million in August. When the transaction of shares was suspended two weeks ago, they were trading at only \$51.46

# A new name... a powerful track record

LRC International plc has changed its name to London International Group plc

This change underlines the strong growth in the company's position in international consumer markets and also reflects its heritage.

During the past six years the company has undergone a change in its size, scope and ambitions. In the same period pre-tax profits have trebled on turnover up 70%. Return on capital employed has more than doubled, dividends per share have increased by 75%. At the same time net borrowings have been significantly reduced and the debt to equity ratio has been dramatically improved.

The wide range of consumer products and services marketed by London International Group includes Marigold household gloves, Durex contraceptives, Duraplug electrical accessories, Royal Worcester and Spode fine china and ColourCare photo-processing services.



London International Group plc

Meeting the needs of consumers worldwide

# Bill soon to free societies

Legislation governing the future of building societies is likely to be introduced in the next few days.

The Bill, which the Treasury hopes will receive its second reading before Christmas, will revolutionize building societies' areas of activities. They are expected to be allowed to offer services in estate agency, surveying, conveyancing, house-building, insurance broking and stockbroking as well as substantially widening the banking and loan facilities on offer.

But the most controversial aspect of the new powers will be contained in a consultative document issued alongside the Bill. This will cover the procedures under which the society is to be allowed to change its status from a non-profit-making trustee organization to a public limited company with shares quoted on the stock market.

The document will raise various courses for handling the rights of existing members should a society decide to convert to company status.

Whitehall officials hope the Bill will pass through all its parliamentary stages by next summer. For most people the most noticeable feature of the new powers is likely to be that they will be able to borrow from their societies for items unrelated to housing.

# Jobless 'will rise despite reflation'

By the City Staff

The Government will cut taxes by £3.5 billion next year to reflate the economy, but growth will still slow down and unemployment rise, Laing & Cruickshank, the stockbrokers, forecasts in a report today.

Laing, in its *Economic and Monetary Review*, says: "We have been unable to replicate the Chancellor's rosy view of all round economic success - brisk growth, low inflation and a burgeoning current surplus."

The firm's economists forecast that the growth rate of gross domestic product will fall from 3.9 per cent this year to 1.8 per cent next year and to 1.2 per cent in 1987. Inflation will average 4.7 per cent in 1986 but will be 6.3 per cent in 1987.

Laing says that if the Government pursues a policy of Reagonomics - tight money, supply and relaxed fiscal policy, the opposite of the current combination - unemployment will rise to 13.8 per cent in 1987. Interest rates were not expected to fall below double figures next year.

The review concedes that without tax cuts - which could be another £3 billion in 1987 - unemployment would be even higher. If taxes were reduced there was a chance that the number of jobless would be declining by the next general election.

# MARKET SUMMARY

## STOCK MARKETS

Friday's close and change on week

FT Ind Ord	1142.9 (+7.5)
FT All Share	693.53 (-8.1)
FT Govt Securities	83.81 (-0.04)
FT-SE 100	1439.1 (-11.9)
Bargains	26.168
Dataseam USM	109.30 (+0.39)
New York	
Dow Jones	1472.13 (+7.8)
Tokyo	
Nikkei Dow	12763.27 (+3.94)
Hong Kong	
Hang Seng	1716.95 (+4.13)
Amsterdam Gen	239.4 (+0.7)
Sydney: AO	990.8 (-0.7)
Frankfurt	
Commerzbank	1725.8 (-47.8)
Brussels	
General	985.07 (-17.27)
Paris: CAC	247.5 (+0.9)
Zurich	
SKA General	475.0 (+10.8)

## CURRENCIES

Friday's close and change on week

London:	
£ \$1.4880 (+0.038)	
£ DM 3.7408 (-0.0037)	
£ Sfr 3.0500 (+0.0064)	
£ FF 11.4033 (-0.0050)	
£ Yen 300.58 (+8.27)	
£ Index: 81.3 (+1.2)	
New York:	
£ \$1.4870	
£ DM 3.7408	
£ Index: 126.3 (-1.2)	
ECU £0.591408	
SDR £0.741385	

## BOARD MEETINGS

TODAY - Interims: Brownlie, Bursfieldston Gold Mining Company, Dominion International.

Group, FKB Group, FKI Electricals, International Signal & Control Group, Lynton Holdings, Benjamin Priest Group, TR Natural Resources Trust, Transcontinental Services Group, Finales: Beatrice Mines, Chrysalis Group, Dundee and London Investment Trust, Grosvenor Property Mines, Merivale Consolidated Mines, Poly Peck International, St Helena Gold Mines, Stillfontein Gold Mining Company, Telecomputing, Trafalgar House, West Rand Consolidated Mines.

TOMORROW - Interims: Atkins Brothers (Hosiery), Birmingham Mint Group, Brunning Group, Interstates, General Electric, Matthew Hall, Jack L. Israel Group, Platan International, R W Toothill.

Finales: Leeds Group, Ranks Hovis McDougall.

WEDNESDAY - Interims: Allied Colloids Group, Cape Industries, Coalite Group, Godfrey Davis, Equity Consort Investment Trust, Feedback, Gee/Rosen Organisation, Gevor Tin Mines, Leopold Joseph, Lister and Company, Mountain Estate, Pagar-Hatley, PWS International, Robertson Research, Christian Salvesen.

Finales: Avon Rubber, BOC Group, Grainger Trust, Hardanger Properties, Holmes and Marchant Group.



ORDINARY SHARES

# Time to sell banks as competition threatens margins

When Christmas is a-coming, the clearing banks' reporting season cannot be far away. At the apogee of a bull market to end all bull markets, and in the midst of a consumer spending boom which occasionally seems to have been fuelled by the notion that money is about to be abolished, the banks' forthcoming bulletins cannot in the main contain anything but news.

Certainly, there is the odd local difficulty. The Third World debt crisis has been with us for so long that many people have forgotten about it. But Midland Bank is slowly recuperating from its unfortunate discovery that Crocker National Bank of California contained more skeletons than a plague pit.

Royal Bank of Scotland has been happily sticking its nameplates over the old Williams & Glyn's signs, while Barclays and National Westminster are proceeding apace with their designated roles as Britain's first-line players in the global trading revolution.

All in all, this looks a good time to sell the shares.

For one thing, there are still plenty of potential buyers willing to take any bank shares that come on to the market. The City's analysts are still, by and large, able to interpret hurdles as opportunities and find doors in every brick wall.

All the forecasts of inflation point to further reductions in 1986, and that should help to bring interest rates down. Once upon a time, that was considered bad for banks, as it cut the so-called endowment benefit of the free money sitting in current accounts. Not any more, though.

Instead, investors are urged to look at the scope this trend

gives for expanding related services like credit cards. Never mind the fact that consumer lending is dwarfed by the amount of credit given to industry.

Then there is the question of the exchange rate. The pound is doing quite nicely these days, which does not always help the banks. But more worrying is the outlook for the dollar, and how the banks will cope with translating their US profits back to their British balance sheets at successively less attractive rates.

The sheer extent of the British banks' success in the US may yet reap a whirlwind. It has significantly weakened the case

## Building societies about to emerge as a force in financial services

for keeping American banks out of the mainstream in this country, and some of our Yankee cousins are out for revenge.

The wedge they are driving is the Stock Exchange big bang. Not that the Americans are rushing to buy themselves a real live London stockbroker, quill pen and all. Apart from a few moves in that direction, the thrust has been to build their own teams in the City by aggressively bidding up salaries.

Most of this has been happening behind the scenes, in the offices of recruitment agencies located in the Victorian back alleys away from the glittering new buildings where they will actually ply their trade.

The big bang will itself be a cataclysmic upheaval. We are only beginning to see the extent

of the inroads the Americans are making, with the Japanese quietly waiting their turn in the second wave.

Further down the road, the more serious battles will take place. If an American bank can earn its salt by arranging share placings or backing a takeover bid, straightforward corporate lending cannot be far away.

And after that, the high street. Most observers agree that the British Telecommunications issue a year ago wetted the general public's appetite for shares. Subsequent flotations, like the Laura Ashley sale last week, have confirmed the extent of that untapped demand, at least so long as the stock market's buoyancy continues.

The Americans have more knowhow in marketing securities to the man in the street, and are certainly less reticent than their British counterparts.

As if that were not enough, we are about to witness the emergence of the building societies as a force in financial services. Some may compete directly for shareholders' favour by going public in their own right.

The prospect, then, for the United Kingdom clearers is of a deteriorating outlook abroad and increased competition at home, bringing increasing pressure on market share and operating margins.

It would be wrong to assume that plans are not being laid for a counter-attack. It promises to be a fascinating struggle, from which bank customers should only benefit. For bank shareholders, however, it may be a very different matter.

William Kay  
City Editor

USM REVIEW

# How Peter hopes to collar the market

Although the Laura Ashley flotation is dominating the City's new issue business, the USM is still comfortably outpacing the main market when the number of new recruits is added up.

Moreover, it could be argued that the junior market is producing a wider selection of interesting companies. Indeed, the unlikely and the unusual are almost becoming commonplace.

This week's additions underline the broad appeal of the market. JS Pathology, which operates a clinical pathology laboratory, is one of the more exotic newcomers.

Another is Chart Foulks Lynch, a college and postal tuition group which is a familiar name to many of the vast - and growing - army of accountants.

CFL also has the distinction of having Britain's only cleric-chairman of a quoted company. The Rev Peter Holliday, aged 37, was a full-time director until four years ago. He then became an Anglican clergyman and is now a curate at Barton-on-Trent.

Mr Holliday, like most of the CFL board, is an accountant. The company goes back to 1884 when H. Foulks Lynch, a solicitor, started what is thought to be the world's first accountancy correspondence course.

In the 1960s the growth of face-to-face tuition began to hit the business and in the late 1970s, when H. Foulks Lynch was in a perilous financial state, Chart Tutors, one of the companies which had made life so difficult for the correspondence company, acquired it for a mere £40,000.

Fielding, Newson-Smith, the broker, has placed the CFL shares at 80p and dealings are due to start on Friday. Existing shareholders are selling half the shares being placed, with £300,000 going into the company.

CFL has clearly come to the market to improve its image - and grow through acquisitions. Profits for the year to end-December are forecast at

£325,000. The shares are on 15 times prospective earnings.

CFL must have given Fielding some of a pricing headache. JS Pathology must also have presented difficulties for Grieverson, Grant & Co., the broker.

GG has placed the shares at 160p. With profits forecast at £1.9 million, the shares are on 16.7 times prospective earnings.

Among others on the final stretch towards a USM quotation are Cranwick Mill Group, pig feed makers; Crusts, the restaurant chain; Technical Components Industries; Dielene, a maker of plastic products; Monks & Crane and AC International.

SAC is taking, for a USM entrant, the unusual route of an offer for sale. Hill Samuel, the merchant bank, is offering shares at 100p.

The company supplies a range of engineering design services to the aerospace, defence and electronic industries. Helped by a sharp rise in orders from aircraft manufacturers, profits have bounced from just £133,000 in the year ended July, 1983, to slightly above £1 million in its last year.

Monks & Crane, a placing at 77p by Albert E. Sharp & Co, the broker, is the result of a management buy-out from Thorn-EMI. It distributes industrial consumables, engineering tools, safety equipment and protective clothing.

TCI, an offering from Industrial Finance and Investment Corporation and Schaverien & Co., the broker, makes a wide range of special fasteners. The shares are being placed at 130p. Profits are forecast at £295,000, putting them on a prospective 16.5 times earnings.

New issue activity on the over-the-counter market is also strong. Allied Insurance Brokers Group, from the Guidehouse Group and Runnors, running a London cocktail bar, and a leisure centre at Marlow, Bucks, on offer from Afor Investments, are among the current crop.

Derek Pain

TEMPUS

# Gilts: rally constrained by houses' trading fears

A tap in time saves nine is Rule 33, apparently, of the Government Broker's gilt market Baedeker, and the truth of this hoary aphorism was partly demonstrated last week. Selecting a neat little selling window a decent time after the Chancellor's Pauline outburst in mid-autumn and ahead of the first really frenzied equity share issue, Laura Ashley, the authorities managed to sell a nominal £1 billion of new stock.

It was a very daring move. The stock, Exchequer Convertible 10%, per cent 1989, was offered for sale by tender, hence inviting the market to boycott the stock in droves. As a short, the stock was priced in line with the market, and the chief appeal lay in the flexible conversion options.

The fact that these conversion options would be valuable only if long and medium term interest rates fell over the next few years really meant the authorities were seeking endorsement of the Chancellor's new inflation forecasts. Over-subscription indicated grudging approval.

The authorities have negotiated for themselves some quite substantial leeway relative to the market, at a time when many of the cognate assets assumed that they were boxed in for the duration. Recent tactics conform to a pattern. The Government Broker's accelerated sale of tapelets, including some risky price cutting, has paid off in so far as he has managed to clear out all the stale stocks.

The offer for sale wraps up most if not all of the funding required up to Christmas. The way is clear, in theory, for a succession of equity sales starting with Cable and Wireless.

But the authorities have also guessed a less tangible advantage relative to the market. Acceptance of the Chancellor's inflation forecasts also implies a willingness to sanction obsequies to the bastard monetarism in vogue over the past five years or so.

This means the authorities can revert now to the comfortable policies of the old regime - maintaining the exchange rate through high interest rates and selling stock when it suited them. In the near term, the balance of advantage between authorities and market may well lie with the Government Broker, as the market is forced

to adjust to an endemic shortage of stock.

Accomplishing such a multi-layered series of signals through the issue of a single piece of stock is a tribute indeed to the new economies of scale possible round at the Bank. Lucretius was wrong (*Nil posse creari de nilo*). Something can be made of a hopeless position.

Almost as surprising, however, as the authorities' successful odyssey towards relative independence was the market's blank refusal, at the end of last week, to join in the celebrations.

Some claimed that the market had fallen a prey to unwelcome Chinese influences. Others pointed to the spectre of the market's first, really big shortage, and blamed the market's torpor on bill mountain fears.

Last Friday saw a shortage in the money markets of around £1.5 billion. The authorities struggled to accommodate this shortage by a purchase and resale arrangement which was relatively favourable to the market, and which by its short duration - less than a fortnight - did not entirely rule out a base rate cut fairly shortly.

Nevertheless, the difficulties of dealing with a shortage of this magnitude still left the market short and overnight sterling rates pushed up to a high rate of 13 per cent.

But Friday's experience is merely a sneak preview of what January and February, the main tax paying season, hold in store. Corporation tax payments should be buoyant this year, reflecting the good profits earned by the British industrial sector.

The last tax paying season saw Corporation tax payments worth about £3.6 billion. This time, the figure could be much higher.

The gains to the Exchequer, of course, will be correspondingly greater, but nevertheless, traders are still uneasy about what impact such wholesale purchases of bills by the authorities will have on money supply figures, now that overfunding is dead.

A further point accrues from the sheer scale of the tax cash lift from market to Exchequer. The inverted yield curve which at present reigns in the British markets makes it virtually impossible for the houses to secure a profitable running yield on the bill book. Pool

trading returns are bound to grow during the taxpaying season with a further possible erosion of the houses' capital base.

It comes as something of a shock to note that the bulk of discount houses are at present trading close to their lows for the year.

The market's poor opinion of the present quality of earnings of the houses is in sharp contrast to the euphoria which reigned this time last year. It finds explicit endorsement in the takeover price signalled this week for one of the smaller, but no less charismatic, houses. Smith St Aubyn.

Smith St Aubyn, gnarled traders recall, was the house with really *harde cashine*, which took on the market in the early 1980s and lost £20 million, mainly in Treasury 15 per cent 1985. It is ironic to think that in the year of the stock's maturity, Smith St Aubyn announces it is in talks with a mystery bidder at the knock-down price of about £8 million. Last year, the asking price would have been closer to £15 million.

A way round the whole question of the financial intermediaries' profits potential exists. The authorities would like to push ahead as rapidly as possible with a huge expansion of the range of product available in the British corporate debt market, which in turn would enhance the earnings profile of the houses.

It is difficult, however, for them to launch on yet another phase of innovation when more pressing problems of actually gathering in the cash exist.

Next spring, therefore, when in theory £M3 targets will be reimposed, it is possible that the bill mountain will be far higher than its present £13 billion level, with the consequent impact, as usual, on confidence.

The authorities last week apparently wrapped up most of their funding programme for some months. Much more work remains to be done of the structural reshaping of the market, whose inadequacies, arguably, are now constraining the price performance of the market.

The benefits accruing from a reorientation of the market's perspectives may not filter through wholly until a further phase of construction is out of the way.

APPOINTMENTS

IMI: Mr Gary J. Allen is to succeed Mr Eric Swainson as managing director.

Technology Requirements Board: The new board will be chaired by Mr John Collyear, chairman of AE. Members of the board are: Professor Sir Geoffrey Allan, director of research and engineering; Unilever; Mr Anthony Giff group managing director; Lucas Industries; Mr Michael Hoffman, managing director, Babcock International; Mr Geoffrey Lomer, technical director, Racal Electronics; Mr Peter Michael, deputy chairman UEI; Professor Sir David Phillips, chairman of the advisory board of the Research Councils; Mr Derek Roberts, deputy managing director, General Electric Company; Mr Ralph Roberts, managing director, Rolls-Royce; and Mr Ivan Yates, deputy managing director, British Aerospace.

Young Austen & Young: Mr Brian S. Greenstreet has become managing director.

David Garrick-London: Mr Roger Brown has become a director responsible for merger and acquisition activities in the consumer goods sector and Mr John Polmeier becomes a director responsible for the engineering, DIY and print sectors.

Serck Audco Valves: Mr Robert G. Beeston has been made managing director, succeeding Mr Harry A. Wood, who becomes chairman.

Potato Marketing Board: Mr Arnold Q. Hitchcock has been re-elected chairman and Mr David Sinclair re-elected vice-chairman.

## New BES fund seeks £3m

Johnson Fry, which has raised £21 million for companies seeking finance from the public under the Business Expansion Scheme, has launched a BES fund which is seeking up to £3 million.

The fund will focus on asset-backed ventures, but avoid wine and art investments. Art and wine BES companies are under Inland Revenue scrutiny.

The companies, selected by the fund's investment committee, will be charged 4 per cent of the amount received from the fund.



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هكذا عن الأصل







# Devon head a day of surprises in the rain

substantially, but Charlton's audience in the strange environment of Selhurst Park was 13,059, their lowest-ever figure in the second division. Compare that with Derby County's crowd of 16,140, the seventh biggest of the day, who saw the hosts hold Reading, the third division's runaway leaders.

● The six rebel clubs in Scotland became seven after three hours of talks in Edinburgh on Saturday, where Rangers, Celtic, Aberdeen, Hibernian, Heart of Midlothian and Motherwell were joined for the first time by Dundee United. The group are opposed to the live television deal agreed between the broadcasting companies and the Scottish League.

\_\_\_\_\_

No Watford can as Talbot (left) and Terry squeeze out Stanletoun

**By Clive White**

have held on to his senses. McGrath looks what he is, an excellent athletic centre back making a go of it in midfield. Of the backs, only Hogan held them together at times. Gibson, making his debut at left back, at least had an excuse for any inhibitions, unlike Gidman.

The were barely deserving of their lead, given them in the most unlikely circumstances when Brazil, who has had plenty of confidence problems of his own, came on a

substitute and scored with his first touch, a downward-struck shot which gave Cotton no chance. John Barnes had been threatening to undo United victory by scoring from outside the box among the 7,000 crowd seeking the help of West's blond head, he created the equalizer in the final minutes.

Alderson would have done well to listen in to the press conference of Graham Taylor, the Watford manager, always an uplifting experience. Taylor said simply that it is a pity that United was not in a way to be behind the big-match atmosphere, hamburgers and all, that is always a certainty at Old Trafford. And that was United's League crown of the season.

**MANCHESTER UNITED:** G. Mullin; J. Gosden, C. Gibson, N. Whiteside, K. Morris (subs A. Brazil, D. Wilson); R. Evans, G. Bracken, M. Hughes, R. Spalding, J. Olsen.

**WATFORD:** A. Colton; N. Gray, W. Horsley, S. Smith, P. Williams, B. Houghton, J. Brown, J. Smalley, L. Bennett, C. West, K. Jackson, J. Barnes.

**Referee:** M. G. Courtney (Spurs).

## References

47 48

**By Vince Wright**

never more so than in the manufacture of their only goal. Slatter, playing at centre half for the

Oxford came under renewed pressure just after half-time. Jim Phillips was asked for a fourth try. Mills and McDonald allowed a pass, say a penalty for nudging away. Clough nearly crossed by a very near miss. Clough almost produced another try. Clough for Webb.

Another Oxford ball belted from the deep by McDonald this time cleared the Forest lines and fell again ideally to Thomas but he missteered his shot miserably wide although the referee tried to console him by incredulously awarding a corner. Forest freed themselves from this injustice and immediately broke again. With Davern

They had good reason to whine yesterday when the team failed to take a single shot on target save for a goal which came from a penalty kick. Davenport, the goal scorer and striker, was their most successful forward but otherwise, if he was not without ability, he was certainly without luck, whether steering shots across the face of the Oxford goal or killing crosses largely behind him.

**NOTTINGHAM FOREST:** S Sutton; J McNally, S Pearce, D Walker, G Birdie, M N Webb, J Mills, J Misdod, N Clough, P Davenport, C Walsh.

**OXFORD UNITED:** S Hardwick, D Langan, J McDonald, J Treweek, N Slater, M Shotton, Houghton, J Aldridge, A Thomas, I Phillips, Hazard.

Referee: P Tydesley (Stockport).

By Vince Wright  
West Ham United.....4

We are approaching the time of year when West Ham usually begin to wilt. The tricky, underfoot conditions prevalent during the winter months have a habit of defeating them but John Lyall's side seem to have resilient qualities which previous West Ham teams have lacked.

Saturday enabled them to climb above Chelsea into third place and their pursuit of Manchester United and Liverpool is, by no means, hopeless. Five successive wins and a run of 15 unbeaten games in the League since August suggest that West Ham are more than a flash in the pan.

The most encouraging factor about this latest triumph is that it was achieved without their prolific scorer, McAvennie, who is on World Cup duty for Scotland in Australia. Any suspicions that West Ham relied too heavily on him were quickly dispelled. There are others who have contributed as much to the present Upton Park success.

Martin, the captain and centre half, is an inspiring leader who looks as if he could solve England's problems in defence. A damaged cartilage has not reduced his effectiveness one jot. Cottee, even with McAvennie alongside him, is

one of the most dangerous forward

in the country, a maker and taker of chances. Ward is an intelligent and exciting midfield player with a explosive shot in his right foot and Dickens improves with every match.

McAvennie's unavailability gave Parris a rare outing in midfield and Dickens partnered Combe in attack. These two eventually ran West Bromwich ragged but not before the Midlanders had given a good account of themselves in the first half. They were untypical of a team anchored at the foot of the table, confident stylish and unafraid.

Cottee's quick reactions led West Ham's opening goal after minutes and they went further front on the half-hour when speculative drive by Parris took wicked deflection off Robertson.

West Ham were irrepressible in the second half and a disheartened West Bromwich folded. Within three minutes of the resumption, Devonshire accepted a square pass from Dickens and ran through a demoralized defence for the third goal and Orr's tap-in completed the

**WEST HAM UNITED:** P. Parkes, R. Stewart, Welford, A. Gale, A. Martin, A. Devonshire, Ward, G. Parris, A. Dickens, A. Coffey, N. Orr.

**WEST BROMWICH ALBION:** P. Bradshaw, Nichol, B. Cowdrie, S. Hunt, M. Bennett, Robertson, A. Greenish, C. Whitstead (capt. Mackenzie), J. Varrod, M. Thomas, G. Crooks.

Referee: J. Martin (Alton).

Australia, who lost 4-3 to India on Saturday sent only four members

In Saturday's match the score was

1-1 at half-time. Robert Skinner, who has never scored for England after 10 years, was the first to break the deadlock. Jagjit Singh had given Malaysia the lead. Surenderan scored the match-winning goal for Malaysia late in the second half. Yesterday was the rest day and in the semi-finals today Spain will meet Malaysia; Pakistan oppose India.

● The main surprise in the announcement of the south, west and north teams for this season is the omission from the north side of Jean Shkurka, the Sheffield League and England B player (Joyce Whitehead writes).

She is named in the B team in spite of having played well in the inter-county tournament.

**SOUTH:** K. Brown (Surrey), A. Canoe (Middlesex), K. Dodd (captain, Berkshire), M. Farnham (Middlesex), M. Frank (Middlesex), S. Goodwin (Sussex), L. Hobley (Duckingham), K. Parker (Middlesex), A. Penberton (Middlesex), J. Thompson (Berkshire), S. Williams (Duckingham).

**NORTH:** V. Hallen (Sheffield League), L. Marsden (Lancashire), J. Crook (Lancashire), G.

Liddle (Yorkshire), M. Hill (Durham), A. M.  
 Crebourn (Lancashire), L. Carr (Lancashire), A.  
 Soutyere (Lancashire), G. Brown (Yorkshire),  
 Hargreave (Yorkshire), J. Beckett (Cheshire),  
 WEST: J. Williams (Dorset), S. Brinkley  
 (Gloucestershire), C. Clark (Devon), C.  
 Goodwin (Avon), S. Francis (Somerset), B.  
 Goodridge (Devon), S. Pearson (Avon), S.  
 Goodwin (Somerset), J. Smith (vice-captain),  
 Devon, B. Smithyman (Somerset), K. Tibary  
 (Avon), G. Whitehead (Dorset), A. Wright (Avon).

## RUGBY-1

JOHN SMITH'S MENIT TABLE B									
North Shields		18		County					
P	W	D	L	F	A	P	100	100	100
Roselyn Pk	2	4	1	1	36	41	100	100	100
Richmond	3	2	2	1	31	38	95	95	95
Ldn Irish	3	2	2	1	51	19	66	66	66
Cowberry	3	3	1	1	52	21	62	62	62
Corral	3	2	2	1	41	42	66	66	66
Deighton	3	2	2	1	41	32	60	60	60
N Harnham	3	3	1	1	2	47	44	33	33
Richmond	3	3	1	1	43	63	120	120	120
Radford	2	1	1	1	31	31	100	100	100
Ldn Welsh	2	1	1	1	3	31	8	41	42
Liverpool	2	1	1	1	3	31	8	41	42

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In conformity with the conditions under which the Fellowships were first established every Fellow shall be man or woman of any nationality whatsoever who at the date of election shall have taken a degree in any faculty in any University approved by the Trustees in the UK or in any country which is or has been since 1910 a Dominion, Protectorate or Mandated Territory of the Crown. Elections to this Fellowship will rarely be made above the age of 35 years.

Applications from candidates must be received not later than 1st March 1986. Elections will take place in May 1986 and the successful applicant will begin work on 1st October 1986.

Candidates must supply supporting statements for the programme from the Departments where they will work.

Forms of application may be obtained from Miss D. Billington, Beit Medical Fellowship, Histopathology Dept., St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London EC1A 7BE.

## 1986 BEIT MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIPS FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH

Notice is hereby given that an election of Junior Beit Fellows to begin work on 1st October, 1986, will take place in May, 1986. The Fellowships carry an initial value of £8,300 - £10,255 p.a. plus £1,297 London Allowance, plus yearly increments for three years. There will be the usual university superannuation contributions and benefits. Persons eligible for Fellowships in conformity with the conditions under which the Fellowships were first established, every Fellow shall be a man or woman of any nationality whatsoever, who at the date of election shall have taken a degree in any faculty in any University approved by the Trustees in the UK or in any country which is or has been since 1910 a Dominion, Protectorate or Mandated Territory of the Crown. Elections to these fellowships are rarely made above the age of 35 years. Candidates must submit written evidence where they propose to work, which must be in Great Britain or Ireland. Applications from candidates must be received not later than March 20, 1986.

Forms of applications and information may be obtained from Miss D. Billington, Administrative Secretary, Beit Memorial Fellowships for Medical Research, Histopathology Department, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, London, EC1A 7BE.

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Further particulars and application forms should be obtained from the Tutor for Graduates, Lincoln College, Oxford, OX1 3DR, to whom application should be sent by 31 December, 1985.

# HORIZONS

A guide to career choice

## Hooked on therapy choice

Sally Watts examines the enhanced prospects and array of choices offered by paramedical work

"It takes a year to get used to: after that you are hooked for life," said a newly qualified physiotherapist. And a first year student observed: "I had no idea how much was involved: geriatrics, maternity, patient with breathing problems, intensive care. We see operations and anatomy dissections. It's far wider than I expected."

The student's last sentence can also be applied to the enhanced prospects and range of choices offered by paramedical careers such as physiotherapy, radiography, speech therapy and occupational therapy.

There are opportunities for post-graduate entrants, mature students and returners (refresher courses, in-service training, part-time work). Male applicants are welcome, although the professions are female, male staff are increasing.

These were seen as traditionally female areas: poorly paid, caring professions with no clear career structure. Today, however, ambition is encouraged. Salaries are more realistic (generally between £5,000 to £6,000 on first qualifying, to about £13,000); a management element is included in the training and some also offer post-training management courses for would-be specialists in this field; additionally, there are opportunities for advanced study.

Colleges, however, are very selective. Entry requirements are high and in some cases are being raised.

### Practitioners are expected to keep up with advances

Some of the professions are affected by the cuts in the health service, others are not. Occupational therapy, with a staff shortfall of more than 20 per cent, is unaffected: this is a growing profession offering excellent prospects; because of the shortage, promotion - especially outside London - tends to be rapid. Physiotherapy, also short-staffed and relying largely on part-timers, has escaped the cuts.

But speech therapy has been less fortunate, and new graduates may experience difficulty finding their first job. In radiography, student intake is being monitored in relation to the jobs available. Entry requirements are being raised in January.

A minimum of five O levels will be needed, not lower than Grade C and including English, maths or physics, a science, a humanities subject and one other, and at least two A levels. As well as a good academic education, applicants need manual dexterity, an interest in technology - they will be handling complex, costly equipment - and ability to work as part of a team.

The three year training in diagnostic or therapeutic radiography is usually hospital-based (occasionally in a college of further education), and leads to a Diploma of the College of Radiographers. The practitioner is then expected to undertake further

study to keep up with advances in science and technology and handle management responsibility.

An ambitious young man or woman with at least four years' clinical experience may specialise by studying for Higher Diploma. Those reaching Senior II grade, or above, can spend one to two years at college, on day release, preparing for the Management Diploma. Teaching is another alternative and holders of the Higher Diploma can apply for a student-teacher post. Before applying, arrange to visit an X-ray department and, if you are over 16, do hospital voluntary work to learn how a hospital functions.

"We're shedding the fluffy rabbit image," says a spokeswoman. Meanwhile the College of Occupational Therapists (OT) is keen to attract returners and new entrants of either sex, including mature students.

Far from concentrating exclusively on toy making, an OT's work ranges from teaching disabled people alternative ways of doing everyday things, including use of special aids and equipment, to conferring with architects on planning home modifications and advising on activities to strengthen muscles, improve coordination and increase movement.

An OT department has facilities for arts and crafts, woodwork, printing, gardening and cooking, among others, and students become familiar with the equipment during clinical practice.

You need six GCE subjects, at least one of them at A level - most colleges ask for two. After completing the three-year diploma course (some degree courses are being planned), the OT, who may be hospital or community-based, has an enormous choice: working with the physically or mentally disabled or mentally ill, specialising in paediatrics, spinal injuries, burns or other areas; taking part in research and evaluation; pursuing further training or moving into management.

Applicants should be perceptive and practical with the ability to make independent judgments while working with a team.

Before applying, visit OT departments treating physical disablement and mental problems.

Speech therapists form a small but developing profession. Young people who have been helped to correct speech defects are sometimes drawn to the work, and do well. There are four areas: voice problems, articulation, stuttering and stammering.

and language problems. The therapist may also work with singers and actors, Members of Parliament and other public speakers to help them overcome voice strain.

Although newly-qualified entrants may have difficulty getting their first job (a result of the cuts mentioned earlier), they are generally able to find other employment. As graduates, their training equips them for alternative work - at language schools, teaching English to foreigners, or using their social skills perhaps in reception work, for example.

Once they have gained professional experience their choice includes joining organisations like The Spastics Society or private hospitals, which are signing up speech therapists around the country. Some enter private practice. There is also scope for research and postgraduate study.

The course may be either three or four years. Minimum requirements are five O levels and two A level passes; most courses require three. Applicants should be caring people, able to get on with others of all ages. Before applying, visit one or two clinics to observe work with adults and children.

Although 1,000 physiotherapists qualify each year, only one applicant in four is accepted. Profession and training are both demanding - the three-year diploma course and four-year degree course involve much work, continuous assessment, little free time and short holidays.

### Many physiotherapists work in private sector

The new physiotherapist has two years' general hospital experience, in which he or she will decide on specialisation such as a particular skill condition or group of patients. In addition to the public sector - hospitals, schools, the home, local authority centres - more now work in the private sector, including sports clubs, industry (perhaps) with firms like Shell and Vauxhall, private clinics and hospitals. And many are self-employed.

Basic requirements are five good O levels, including English and at least two sciences passed at one sitting, and two academic A levels, preferably including biology or zoology. Entrants need physical fitness, emotional stability, patience, personality and ability to communicate. Before applying, arrange to visit your local hospital's physiotherapy department and a training school.

For further details: College of Occupational Therapists, 20, Rye Place, Baywater, London W2 4TU. Chartered Society of Physiotherapy, 14 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4ED. College of Radiographers, 14 Upper Wimpole Street, London W1M 8BN. College of Speech Therapists, Harold Poster House, 6 Lechmere Road, London NW2 5BU.

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## UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

### UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

#### FACULTY OF MEDICINE AND DENTISTRY

#### CHAIR IN MENTAL HANDICAP

Applications are invited from medically-qualified candidates for appointment to the newly-established Chair in Mental Handicap in the Department of Psychiatry. This new development is intended to lead to advances in teaching, clinical care and research in the subject. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the development of the Department's research in this area.

Salary in the clinical professional range, maximum £28,000, with superannuation.

Further particulars available from the Vice-Chancellor, University of Birmingham, P.O. Box 363, Birmingham, B15 2TT, to whom applications (15 copies) must be sent by 10 January 1986.

An Equal Opportunities Employer

### University of Leicester

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE HISTORY OF ART

#### TEMPORARY LECTURESHIP

Applications are invited for a Temporary Lectureship in the Department of the History of Art, tenable for two years from 1 October 1986. Courses of present taught range from the Renaissance to the Twentieth Century, and preference may be given to candidates interested in either the Renaissance or the modern period.

Initial salary will depend on qualifications and experience on the Lecturers' Scale £7,520 to £14,928 plus a temporary supplement of 4% payable pending an academic salary settlement effective from 1 April 1986.

Further particulars from the Registrar (Appointments), University of Leicester, University Road, Leicester, LE1 7RH, to whom applications on the form provided should be sent by 10 January 1986.

UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD IN ASSOCIATION WITH WADHAM COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY LECTURESHIP IN MODERN CHINESE

Applications are invited for the University Lectureship in Modern Chinese, to be held in the Department of Chinese Studies, University of Oxford, in association with Wadham College. The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the development of the Department's research in this area.

### The University of Western Australia

#### DEPARTMENT OF GERMAN LECTURE (FIXED TERM)

#### Appointment for three years

Applicants should have a first or second class honours degree in German, a higher degree or equivalent qualification and substantial experience in teaching the German Language at the tertiary level. Preference will be given to applicants who provide evidence of a strong practical as well as theoretical interest in modern language teaching methodology and have the capacity to carry out research in this area.

The main duties of the successful applicant will be to take part in teaching German Language, and to carry out research in this area.

Salary: Range: \$A26,236-\$A34,467 p.a.

Closing Date: 27th December 1985

### University of Exeter

#### LIBRARY

#### Applications are invited from qualified persons for the post of General Librarian Assistant.

The post will initially be in the European Documentation Centre of the Law Library, though part of the time will be spent in the Main Library. A knowledge of modern European languages will be an advantage, as will experience of cataloguing and indexing. The successful candidate will be required to start as soon as possible.

Initial salary will be within the range £8,386-£7,461 per annum (under review), with initial placement up to a maximum of £8,256 per annum.

Letters of application, including a curriculum vitae and the names and addresses of 2 referees, should be sent to the Personnel Office, University of Exeter, Exeter EX4 4QJ by 11 December 1985, enclosing reference no. 9966.

University of Bristol

CHAIR IN RHEUMATOLOGY

The University proposes to make an appointment to a new Arthritis and Rheumatism Chair in the Department of Rheumatology.

Suitably qualified candidates are invited to submit applications by 31st January, 1986.

Further particulars of the appointment may be obtained from the Registrar and Secretary, University of Bristol, Bristol BS8 1TH.







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# DEATHS

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On 28th November 1985, at St. Mary's Hospital, London, after a long illness, Mrs. Mary Jane Smith, nee Jones, aged 78, widow of the late Mr. John Smith, died peacefully.

Funeral service on Wednesday, December 4th, at 11.00 am, St. Mary's Church, London. Burial in the family vault.

Family flowers accepted. Donations to St. Mary's Hospital, London, if desired.

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# Today's television and radio programmes

Edited by Peter Dear and Peter Daville

## BBC 1

- 8.00 **Children's Aid**.  
8.30 **Breakfast Time** with Selma Scott and Mike Ross. Weather at 8.55, 9.25, 9.55 and 10.25; regional news, weather and traffic at 8.57, 9.27, 9.57 and 10.27; national and international news at 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 and 9.00; the morning news reviewed at 8.57, 9.27, 9.57 and 10.27; Mike Smith with the latest pop music news; Russell Grant's astrology; and Alan Titchmarsh's December walk. The guest is Ian Botham.  
9.20 **Cee-fax**. 10.30 **Play School** (9.10-10.50 Cee-fax).  
12.30 **News After Noon** with Richard Wainwright and Frances Cooper. Includes news headlines with subtitles, 12.55 Regional news and weather.  
1.00 **Pobble Mill** at One includes the final of the UK Dance Championships; a further report on the Himalayan region of Kurt Demberger and Julie Tullis as they explore Everest; and Hilary James demonstrating how to make a teddy bear with a growl, 1.45 **Playground**.  
2.00 **See Hear** magazine programme for the hearing impaired (shown yesterday). 2.25 **Scene of the Crime** from Donaghia (shown yesterday) (Cee-fax). 3.00 **News**. 3.55 **Children's Aid** for the Church of England. Sheila Hancock tells the story of Rapunzel (9.10-10.50 Cee-fax). 4.20 **Spider-Man**. Cartoon series. 4.45 **Wogan**. Tonight's guests include Steve Wonder, actor Michael J. Fox, and Bob Carole. Plus a song from Bonnie Tyler.  
7.40 **Starkey and Hutch**. Huggy Bear is in a quandary. He witnesses an illegal poker game that ends with murder and mayhem. Should he tell the police what he knows or should he stay quiet to protect an old friend? (9.10-10.50 Cee-fax).  
8.30 **Don't Walk Up**. The first of a new series of the comedy starring Tom Blinton and Nigel Havers as father and son medical men with marriage problems. Tonight, Toby's reconciliation cruise with Angela is not plain sailing while Tom's weekend in the country with Madeleine hits a snag (Cee-fax).  
9.00 **News** with Julia Somerville and John Humphrys. Weather.  
9.25 **Panorama**. Aids - the race for a cure. Margaret-Jane reports on the hopes of a British company's drug, AZT, to be the first to conquer the Aids virus. The programme also includes interviews with sufferers who are undergoing other treatments - one in St Stephen's Hospital in London, another in Paris who is persevering with the treatment that failed to save Rock Hudson. There are also interviews with leading experts on the problem - Dr Luc Montagnier, of the Institut Pasteur in Paris, and Dr Robert Gallo of Washington's Cancer Institute.  
10.05 **Film: The Savage Bees** (1976) starring Ben Johnson. A made-for-television drama about a swarm of killer bees threatening to disrupt New Orleans' Mardi Gras celebrations. Directed by Bruce Geller.  
11.35 **Weather**.

## tv-am

- 8.15 **Good Morning Britain** presented by Anne Diamond and Henry Kelly. News with Gordon Honeycombe at 8.17, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 11.00, 11.15, 11.30, 11.45, 12.00, 12.15, 12.30, 12.45, 1.00, 1.15, 1.30, 1.45, 2.00, 2.15, 2.30, 2.45, 3.00, 3.15, 3.30, 3.45, 4.00, 4.15, 4.30, 4.45, 5.00, 5.15, 5.30, 5.45, 6.00, 6.15, 6.30, 6.45, 7.00, 7.15, 7.30, 7.45, 8.00, 8.15, 8.30, 8.45, 9.00, 9.15, 9.30, 9.45, 10.00, 10.15, 10.30, 10.45, 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# Privatized coal 'the only hope'

By David Young  
Energy Correspondent

Two of Britain's leading energy economists suggest today that the only hope for the British coal industry is for it to be privatized.

Professor Colin Robinson, of Surrey University, and Eileen Marshall, of Birmingham University, are to give evidence to the Commons Energy Committee on the proposed privatization of British Gas.

They describe the National Coal Board and the National Union of Mineworkers as monopolies which "have played a major role in the decline of British coal and have thus undermined their own position."

Professor Robinson and Miss Marshall, in a paper published by the Institute of Economic Affairs, say: "Continued monopolization of British coal supply and of the supply of British miners is a recipe for continuing decline."

"Under an organizational form which brings a large corporation into confrontation with a large union, the industry has demonstrated inflexibility and an incapacity to respond to market circumstances. The result has been a waste of a nation's resources and damage to the long run interests of the coal industry itself."

The authors urge that the British coal market should be liberalized to give the consumer a choice by freeing overseas trade in coal, and that the discipline of the private capital market should be introduced so that there should be more sources of supply.

They argue that the NCB's open-cast interests should be privatized, but admits that there are problems of privatizing many deep mines.

"The NCB's concentration on 'superpits' may have led it to neglect smaller mines which could be more profitable if they were run by private companies. Professor Robinson and Miss Marshall say that some deep mines would be attractive to private companies, some would be suitable for management buyouts and others could operate successfully as worker co-operatives."

# New gallery for Japanese treasures

By Geraldine Norman

One of the world's finest collections of Japanese decorative arts is to come out of store and go on display thanks to a £350,000 endowment from the Toshiba Corporation of Japan. The endowment will enable a new gallery to be established at the Victoria and Albert Museum devoted to Japanese craft design. It is expected to open in autumn next year.

Out of store will come one of the finest collections of lacquer outside Japan, including a rare black and gold casket of the 1620s with ivory fittings which the museum has had since 1886 but has almost never shown.

Out will come the superb collection of tea ceremony ceramics formed for the Victoria and Albert by the Japanese statesman Sano Jomin in 1875 and exhibited at the Philadelphia Exhibition of 1876 before arriving at South Kensington in 1877 - and retiring into store. It includes a very rare seventeenth century stone-ware incense burner in the form of a conch shell, whose attribution to the great potter Ninsei has recently been confirmed by experts.

The Victoria and Albert Museum is considered to have the best collection of Japanese decorative arts outside Japan and the United States. Comprising about 40,000 items, it ranges over paintings, ceramics, costume, netsuke and other specifically Japanese art forms. A large collection of artefacts of the Meiji period (1868-1912) was formed at the time but never displayed, and acquisitions of contemporary material are still being made.

Hitherto Japan has been designated one small primary gallery of corridor size. The room that used to be used for temporary exhibitions, abutting the old restaurant, is to be converted into the new gallery. Paul Williams, the leading gallery and exhibition designer, has been commissioned to design it.



Mr Joe Earle, above, keeper of the V & A far eastern department, with rare incense burner and Meiji period vases. Below, a 17th century porcelain vase.



## Lloyd's 'impending inquiry'

Continued from page 1

Business Programme said that Department of Trade inspectors had submitted the 50-page report to the DDP with "prima facie evidence of fraud in matters relating to the Unimar affair".

Unimar, one of the Peter Cameron-Webb reinsurance offshoots, has already been the subject of an investigation by Sir Peter Green, the former chairman of Lloyd's.

Mr Peter Miller, the present chairman of Lloyd's, told a general meeting of members last June: "My predecessor as

chairman carried out an investigation into a contract placed by POW - the so-called Unimar investigation - and concluded that there had been no dishonesty. His findings have since been confirmed by the independent inquiry into PCW."

If Department of Trade investigators probing the affairs of Minet Holdings, the Lloyd's brokers who owned PCW, have discovered prima facie evidence of fraud relating to Unimar, their findings will be a severe embarrassment for Sir Peter, Mr Miller, Lloyd's and the Government.

## Tin council 'acted beyond its powers'

Continued from page 1

this way, council sources said yesterday.

A similar effect was achieved by special lending deals with brokers which, according to the report, totalled 6,815 tonnes worth more than £60 million. Under these deals the council sold tin to a broker and agreed to re-purchase it at a specified future time and price.

Such operations are sensitive because some countries allege that they now face debts which the council should not have incurred. The matter is especially delicate because the council suspended its price support operations, conducted through a buffer stock, when it ran out of money on October 24.

Member companies of the London Metal Exchange were in turn forced to suspend tin trading, and that started the crisis. Efforts to resolve the crisis, which financially threatened some exchange members, have failed. Tin demand has lagged behind supply for some years.

But senior council sources insist that special lending and borrowing deals were agreed by the council in 1982. If they were beyond powers set out in the International Tin Agreement, member countries agreed to them through their delegates.

It is also emphasized by the sources that the council was within its normal bank borrowing limits. Of total net borrowings of £281 million estimated by the audit report, £169 million was available for stockpiling tin.

When it ceased operations, the buffer stock held 52,540 tonnes worth about £430 million.

The report shows that if the £60 million pledged by a group of tin mining countries earlier in the year to support the council had actually been paid, the price support operation might have continued for another six or 12 months.

But the failure of the EEC, all of whose members are signatories to the tin agreement, to agree on a common solution to the crisis makes a successful outcome of the meeting starting today harder to achieve.

Leading article, page 13

## Letter from Warsaw

## No answer to the call of nature

It is a little known fact, perhaps, that the Polish founding father of the KGB, started his revolutionary career as an attendant in a Warsaw public lavatory.

The future secret police chief wanted, of course, to test his Bolshevik zeal, to align himself with the most downtrodden of the downtrodden proletariat. A passing phrase, later he found his real forte in orchestrating the red terror and opening orphanages.

Some of Dzerzhinsky's spirit, though unfortunately not his ruthless efficiency, lives on in the lady-guardians of the Warsaw lavatory system.

Most of them look as if they would rather be knitting beneath a gullotine, forbidding is their gaze as they demand the going rate, in advance, for 12 sheets of lavatory paper. The enduring shortage of paper in Poland means that none can be put in the cubicles lest the rolls are stolen.

Domestic consumers must either trade in waste paper (60% of discarded *Trybuna* *Ladys* gets one roll) or buy from the small-time black marketeers in Warsaw's New World Street.

Public lavatories have a bigger problem: not only do they have to cope with the absence of toilet rolls and detergent, they must also meet the officially-set Plan targets.

A woman appointed to supervise the public lavatories in Warsaw railway stations is handed the following authorization: "I hereby appoint Mrs X to work in the ladies' room at the Wschodni railway station. The profits for using the lavatory under your supervision should reach the established norm of 480 zloties (about £2) per hour."

Now, according to Mrs Alina who runs this particular facility, the standard charge for using her lavatory is five zloties. That means, to fulfil her target, she would have to attract 96 people an hour. Her monthly deficit is between 2,000 and 4,000 zloties (£10 and £20 at the official rate).

"My plan is smaller now. In the summer I was supposed to bring in 510 zloties per hour."

Thank God I work in the ladies, as women are more honest than men. But there are also some who refuse to pay. "How can I convince them that coughing their hair in front of the mirror is four zloties when the price I have on my list?"

The result of this economic nonsense is that public lavatories in Warsaw have deteriorated to the point of no return. The atrocities are too numerous to catalogue in a family newspaper.

One tries to be fair, of course: Is Warsaw worse than Paris? Or Marseille? Or Naples? The answer is probably, yes. The heavy followers of Dzerzhinsky have given up the struggle to reach hopelessly unrealistic bureaucratic goals (set by whom?) in a land of short supply.

The situation has been aggravated by the crisis in the building industry: with most families waiting 15 years for their own flat and building materials at a premium, public lavatories have been left off Warsaw's construction programme for the next five years.

According to municipal regulations, there should only be a 10-minute wait between each public lavatory in Warsaw. In the centre this is just about adhered to, but in the suburbs finding a public toilet is as statistically improbable as winning a car in a sweepstake. Instead, the desperate use the lifts and windy stairwells of the anonymous housing estates.

The solution, suggests one newspaper - the issue has reached the pages of the official press - may be to lease public lavatories to private companies. This is working well in at least one suburban railway station. But who will take on the more abandoned lavatories? And how would the privatization of the lavatory system square with socialism?

The eternal nagging questions of Polish political and economic life are present even here, in the white-filed chambers of the fierce lady-guardians. Meanwhile come back Dzerzhinsky. Please try again.

Roger Boyes

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

#### Royal engagements

The Prince of Wales, Colonel-in-Chief, 5th Royal Inniskilling Dragoon Guards, attends the annual dinner of the Cavalry Colonels at the Cavalry and Guards Club, Piccadilly, London, 8.

Princess Alexandra attends a gala performance given by the English National Opera, to celebrate the Quatercentenary of the City of Westminster at the London Coliseum, 7.20.

#### New exhibition

Re-vision: new work by Helen Chadwick, Sharon Kivland, Karen Knorr, Mark Lewis, Yve Lomax, Mari Mahr, Olivier Richon and Susan Tranter, John Hansard Gallery, The University, Southampton, Mon to Sat 10 to 6 (ends Jan 4).

### Exhibitions in progress

The Christmas story - paintings, prints and drawings from the National Gallery's collection; The Mount, Princes Street, Edinburgh, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Jan 5, 1986).

The Magical World of Puppets: Birmingham Museum and Art Gallery, Chamberlain Square, Birmingham, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2 to 5 (ends Feb 9, 1986).

Kalevala jewelry, Nottingham University's Main Library, University Park, Nottingham, Mon to Fri 9 to 4.45, Sat 9 to 5, closed Sun (ends Dec 15).

In the Bamboo Grove - 2000 years of Chinese Art, Walsall Museum and Art Gallery, Lichfield Street, Walsall, Mon to Fri 10 to 6, Sat 10 to 4.45, closed Sun (ends Jan 11, 1986).

The World of Mary Ellen Best, York City Art Gallery, Exhibition Square, York, Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 5 (ends Jan 26, 1986).

Music

Recital by Clive Conway, flute, Diane Wyatt, violin, Claire Sadler, cello, Robin Bowman, harpsichord, The University Church of St Mary the Virgin, High Street, Oxford, 1.15.

Concert by Worcester Cathedral Choir, Keele University Chapel, Staffordshire, 8.

Recital of Chopin piano sonatas by Roger Woodward, St George's, Brandon Hill, Bristol, 7.30.

Concert by the London Symphony Orchestra conducted by Yuri Simonov, St David's Hall, Cardiff, 8.

Christmas Moods in Music presented by Les Lawrence, The Hexagon, Queens Walk, Reading, Berkshire, 7.30.

Christmas concert by the Band of Her Majesty's Royal Marines, Calisher Festival Theatre, Sussex, 7.30.

Talks, lectures, films

The changing ecology of human communities - is there a human ecology of the future? by Dr S Staller, Room EK201, 5.15.

Political obligation and the public interest by Professor A. J. M. Milne, Room EK278, 5.30; Elvet Riverside, University of Durham.

### Square, York: Mon to Sat 10 to 5, Sun 2.30 to 5 (ends Jan 26, 1986).

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The Sunday Times wonders whether Britain has already become a fourth rate nation, when its only supporters over last week's United Nations motion calling on Britain to negotiate with Argentina on the future of the Falklands, were Belize, Oman and the Solomon Islands. Mrs Thatcher's determined single-mindedness, which helped win the Falklands war, is now in danger of ensuring that Britain loses the peace, the paper says.

The Sunday Mirror's leader congratulates Ian Botham on completing his 899-mile charity walk the length of Britain in aid of leukemia research. Cricket's scallywag has proved himself a good guy by setting such a fine example to Britain's youth, it says.

The Observer believes that the Government's plan to sell of the British Gas Corporation for between £5 billion and £10 billion may be at the expense of consumer service, and that a healthy industry is being sold off for the sake of quick capital gain. "In time the gas consumer, like the telephone user, will find this out for themselves."

The News of the World takes the view that while millions of people stand to benefit from the sale of British Gas, there is a "small of fraud and underhand dealing" in the City.

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### Nature notes

On winter days, birds do little except feed, though they may rest and preen for a while around midday. On winter nights, most finches roost in flocks for better protection against hunting owls.

Hundreds of linnets gather in gorse bushes, and large congregations of greenfinches in rhododendrons or hawthorn. House sparrows sometimes build special roosting nests.

Great tits and blue tits roost singly in holes - usually smaller, cooler holes than they will use in the summer for nesting in.

Long-tailed tits keep warm at night by huddling together in clumps with all their long tails sticking out.

In the frosts, ash-trees have been shedding their leaves while still green. The few remaining flowers include blue speedwell at fields' edges.

Among fungi to be seen now are oyster mushrooms, which grow in silvery clusters on beeches and oaks, and the foul-smelling stinkhorn among dead bracken.

On islands off western and northern coasts, grey seals have been giving birth to their pups. The young ones have white fur for the first month of their life.

Common seals are mostly to be seen off the east coast; pups are now several months old, and the families lie together on offshore sandbanks.

Age Concern England and the Health Education Council have published a pamphlet describing all the cash help available to retired people.

Arthritis in Winter: free (please send large stamped addressed envelope) from: Public Relations Department, Age Concern England, 60 Piccadilly Road, Mitcham, Surrey, CR4 3LL.

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### Anniversaries

Birth: Georges Seurat, painter, Paris, 1859; George Minot, physician, Nobel laureate, Boston, Massachusetts, 1885.

Deaths: Herman Cortes, conquistador, Seville, 1547; Lord Charles, 1st earl, 1847; Napoleon, crowned emperor of France, 1804.

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## Weather forecast

Troughs of low pressure will move SW across most parts.

Gale to midnight

London, SE England: Mostly cloudy with occasional rain; wind S to SW moderate to fresh, locally strong; max temp 13C (55F).

E Anglia, Midlands, E, NW, central N England, N Wales: Dry with bright intervals at first becoming cloudy with some rain, locally moderate; wind S or SW fresh or strong perhaps local gale; max temp 13C (55F).

Central S, SW England, Channel Islands, S Wales: Cloudy with rain at times becoming brighter and drier later but scattered showers; wind S or SW mainly strong to gale max temp 14C (57F).

NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Cloudy with rain at times, some drizzle; wind S or SW moderate to strong; max temp 10C (50F).

SE Scotland, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Aberdeen: Bright intervals and scattered showers, some rain later; wind S or SW moderate to strong; max temp 10C (50F).

SEA PASSAGES: S North Sea: Wind SW fresh becoming strong to gale. Occasional rain; visibility moderate to poor. Sea moderate becoming rough. Strait of Dover, English Channel (E): Wind S strong to gale. Occasional rain; visibility moderate to poor. Sea rough. St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind S strong to gale occasionally severe gale. Visibility moderate to poor. Sea very rough.

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